

A  
T O U R  
THROUGH THE ISLAND OF  
*GREAT BRITAIN.*

DIVIDED INTO  
CIRCUITS OR JOURNIES.  
CONTAINING,

I. A Description of the Principal Cities and Towns, their Situation, Government, and Commerce.

The Customs, Manners, Exercises, Diversions, and Employments of the People.

II. The Nature and Virtue of the many Medicinal Springs with which both Parts of the United Kingdom abound.

IV. An ample Description of London, including *Westminster* and *Southwark*, their Bridges, Squares, Hospitals, Churches, Palaces, Markets, Schools, Li-

braries, Shipping in the *Thames*, and Trade, by means of that noble River, &c.

V. The Produce and Improvement of the Lands, the Trade, and Manufactures.

VI. The Sea-Ports and Fortifications, the Course of Rivers, and the Inland Navigation.

VII. The Public Edifices, Seats, and Palaces of the Nobility and Gentry.

VIII. The Isles of *Wight*, *Scilly*, *Portland*, *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, and the other *English* and *Scottish* Isles of most Note.

*Interspersed with Useful Observations.*

Particularly fitted for the Perusal of such as desire to Travel over the ISLAND.

Originally begun by the Celebrated DANIEL DE FOE, continued by the late Mr. RICHARDSON. Author of *Clarissa*, &c. and brought down to the present Time by Gentlemen of Eminence in the Literary World.

The EIGHTH EDITION,

With great Additions and Improvements.

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# C O N T E N T S

O F

## V O L U M E IV.

### L E T T E R I.

*A* General Description of North Britain, Page 1

### L E T T E R II.

*A* Description of the Merse, the Two Lothians, of Edinburgh, Leith, &c. 45

### L E T T E R III.

*A* Description of the following Shires and Towns, viz. Annan, Dumfries, Galloway, Air, Renfrew, Glasgow, Stirling, Linlithgow, Clidisdale, Tweeddale, Roxborough, &c. 102

### L E T T E R IV.

*A* Description of the ancient Caledonia, or Northern Part of Scotland; and particularly of the Shires and  
A 2 Towns



## C O N T E N T S

*Towns of Fife, St. Andrew's, Perth, Dumblain, Alloway, Culrofs, Scone, Angus, Dundee, Montrose, Aberdeen, Buchan, Murray, Elgin, Inverness, and the Highlands, &c.* 139

### L E T T E R V.

*A brief Description of the Scottish Isles, both Western and Northern,* 245

### L E T T E R VI.

*Containing a brief Account of the Rise, Progress, and Extinction of the Rebellion raised in Scotland in the Year 1745,* 335

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A  
T O U R  
THROUGH THAT PART OF  
GREAT BRITAIN  
CALLED  
SCOTLAND.

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L E T T E R I.

*General* DESCRIPTION of NORTH  
BRITAIN.

 EFORE I enter on particular descriptions of my Northern Tour, it may not be improper to take a general survey of *Scotland*, in order to give a brief geographical account thereof; to describe its lakes, rivers, and fisheries; its mountains, woods, and springs; its manufactures, government, customs, and manners; and such other matters as would have been improperly dispersed in different parts of the Tour, had they not been here collected, as it were, in one point of view.

VOL. IV.

B

*A brief*



## 2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

### *A brief Geographical Account of SCOTLAND.*

**SCOTLAND** is bounded on the south by the *Irish* sea and *England*, from which it is divided by *Solway Firth*, and the rivers *Esk* and *Keshop*; on the west border, by the *Cheviot* hills, in the *Middle Marches*; and by the lower parts of the *Tweed*, on the east border. On the east it is bounded by the *German* sea; on the north, by the *Deucaledonian* sea; and on the west, by the great western ocean.

Its greatest length from *Dungby-head*, or *John of Grot's-house*, in *Caithness*, to the *Mull of Galloway*, towards *Ireland*, is no more than about 215 *Scots* miles: but if we reckon directly north from *Dumfries*, or the said *Mull of Galloway*, to the utmost parts of *Caithness*, or *Strathnavern*, the length will not be so much; and less still, if we reckon from *Berwick* to either of these places.

Its breadth, from the point of *Ard-na-murchan* near the *Isle of Mull*, about the middle part of *Scotland* in the west, to *Buchanness* in the east parts, towards the north, is about 140 *Scots* miles; but the sea running up into the land, or the land thrusting out into the sea in many places, makes the breadth of it everywhere else very various and disproportionable; for in the south parts it is seldom 100 miles over, and in the north parts, beyond *Inverness*, not so many; so that there is no house above 40 or 45 miles from salt water.

Besides the main land, there are about 300 islands, some of them very considerable, which may be distinguished into several classes: the western islands called *Hebrides*, or *Aebuda*, by *Latin* authors; the *Orkades*, or *Orkney* islands: the islands of *Shetland*, or *Zetland*; and some few in the *Firth of Forth*.

The whole country abounds in lakes and rivers, many whereof, running into creeks and arms of the sea

## OF SCOTLAND. 3

sea (which in several places are very wide and deep), afford great and commodious opportunities for fishing and shipping: but it is much to be regretted, that the land is neither cultivated, nor the fishing and shipping carried on and improved to so much advantage as might be expected.

### *Of the most remarkable Lakes and Rivers in* SCOTLAND.

SCOTLAND, or *North Britain*, has received from the bountiful hand of Providence, a very copious distribution of waters, and those too very happily disposed for the use and benefit of its inhabitants, in so much that it may be with truth affirmed, that there is scarce any considerable part of it so situated as not to have its share of these blessings. Springs of clear and wholesome water are every-where in plenty, not only on the sides, but even on the tops of many of the mountains, and sometimes also on the bare rocks, as in the island of *Bass* in the *Firth of Forth*. These springs in their descent swell into pleasant rills, and by degrees into brooks or burns, which straying every-where through the fields, either are, or might be, easily rendered instruments of fertility. These again, in their progress, augmenting their streams, become at length no contemptible rivers, which administer to all the purposes of domestic œconomy. Many of these meeting with hollow places in their passage, expand themselves into lochs, till finding a proper channel, they resume their form of rivers.

The lakes of *Scotland* (there called lochs), are too many to be particularly described. Those called loch *Tay*, loch *Lomond*, *Lochness*, loch *Au*, and one or two more, present us with such picturesque scenes as are not, probaby, to be matched in *Europe*, if we except *Ireland*. Several of these lakes are beautifully fringed



#### 4 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

with woods, and contain plenty of fresh-water fish. The *Scots* sometimes give the name of a loch to an arm of the sea; as, for example, loch *Tyn*, which is sixty miles long, and four broad, and is famous for its excellent herrings; the loch of *Spinie*, near *Elgin*, is remarkable for its number of swans and cygnets, which often darken the air with their flights, owing, as some think, to the plant *olorina*, which grows in its waters, with a strait stalk, and a cluster of seeds at the top. Near *Lochness* is a hill said to be almost two miles perpendicular, at the top of which is a lake of fresh water, about thirty fathoms in length, but its depth could never yet be ascertained, nor does it ever freeze; whereas, but seventeen miles from thence, the lake *Lochanwyn*, or *Green Lake*, is covered with ice all the year round.

The ancient province of *Lochaber* receives that name from being the mouth of the lochs, by means of which the ancient *Caledonians*, the genuine descendants of the *Celts*, were probable enabled to preserve themselves independent upon, and unmixed with the *Lowlanders*.

Other lochs or lakes we shall take notice of in their respective places. The following are the principal rivers in *North Britain*.

The *Forth* is one of the most noble and commodious rivers in *Scotland*. It takes its rise near the bottom of *Leimon-hills*, and running from west to east, receives in its passage many considerable streams, deriving their waters from the eminences in the midland counties.

The river *Clyde* rises out of *Tinto-hill*, near a place called *Arrick-stone*, on the confines of the two shires of *Peebles* and *Lanerk*. It runs at first north-westward, till being joined by another stream, it passes by *Craufurd*, and runs almost directly north, through the famous moor of the same name, anciently renowned

renowned for producing gold dust and lapis lazuli, as it still is for the rich mines of lead, belonging to the Earl of *Hopton*. After traversing this moor, the river declines eastward, and fetching a considerable compass, turns again to the north-west; when receiving a large supply of water from the river *Douglas*, it comes to *Lanerke*, a royal burgh; and here is a bridge over it, of great convenience to the adjacent counties. The *Clyde* then leaving *Hamilton* at a small distance, about which there is as good oak timber as any in the island, proceeds to *Glasgow*, which it reaches after traversing about 50 miles from its source. Here, becoming both broad and deep, it continues its progress, dividing the shires of *Renfrew* and *Dunbarton*; and having passed the town of *Renfrew*, and soon after received the two rivers of the name of *Cart*, it moves majestically on, till it also absorbs the river *Leven*, issuing from *Loch-Lomond*; and thus swelled with subsidiary streams, having passed *New Port Glasgow*, and *Greenock*, and washed a part of *Argyleshire*, it joins its waters to those of the sea, after a course of 70 miles.

One of the greatest improvements of inland navigation that has been attempted in *Great Britain*, is now carrying on at a very considerable expence, by a society of public-spirited gentlemen, for joining the rivers *Forth* and *Clyde* together; by which a communication will be opened between the east and west seas, to the immense advantage of the whole kingdom, as must be evident to every person, who looks into the map of *Scotland*.

The *Tay* is indisputably the largest river in *Scotland*. It rises in *Braidalbin* on the frontiers of *Lorn*, and, augmented by several waters in its passage, is navigable to *Perth*. The *Firth of Tay* is not indeed so large or so commodious as that of *Forth*; but from *Buttouness* to *Perth* it is not less than 40 miles; and

## 6 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

the whole may be, without any great impropriety, stiled a harbour, which has *Fife* on one side, and the shires of *Perth* and *Angus* on the other.

The river of *South Esk* rises among the mountains in the north of *Angus*; and, running directly many miles south, makes an angle near the seat of the Earl of *Airly*, and directs its course eastward, falling at length into the *German Ocean*, a little below *Montrose*.

The rivers *Dee* and *Don* run from east to west, and fall into the *German sea* near *Aberdeen*. Both these rivers have bridges over them, at no great distance from the fall; that over the *Dee* consists of seven arches, and is esteemed a magnificent work: that over the *Don* is only of a single arch, sustained on each side by a rock, and is a most noble and surprising piece of workmanship.

The river *Devon*, or *Dovern*, rises not many miles north from the *Don*, and running through *Strath-bogie*, in a winding course, declining however constantly to the north-east till it reaches the town of *Strath-bogie*, and then runs for a few miles directly north, turns afterwards due east, at length turns again to the north; and passing many miles on one side of a beautiful country, which from thence derives the name of *Strath-don*, bending a little to the west, falls at length into that part of the *German ocean* which is stiled *Murray-Firth*.

The *Spey* is a river of as long a course as most in *North Britain*. It rises in the mountains of *Badenoch*, in the heart of the shire of *Inverness*. Its waters quickly spread themselves to such an extent, as to become a small lake, called *Loch-Spey*; from which, resuming the form of a river, it proceeds several miles south-east; then, fetching a compass, it turns north-east, and in that direction runs many miles till it reaches *Ruthven*; from whence digressing more to the east, and receiving many rivulets by the way, it rolls on  
with

with a rapid stream to *Roths*; and from thence directing its course northwards, falls into the *Firth of Murray*, at a place called *Garmach*, or *Garmouth*, which is a creek of no great importance, frequented only by small vessels.

The *Loffy* rises not many miles above the royal burgh of *Elgin*, in the pleasant and plentiful country of *Murray*, and falls into *Murray Firth* a few miles below it at a place called *Loffy-mouth*, or *New-Port-Elgin*.

The river of *Findorn* rises in the hills of *Monchroky*, where its waters quickly spread into a lake; passing out of which, and running south-west, they soon form a larger, which is called *Loch-Moy*. Issuing from thence, it takes a wide compass, and passing by *Conbrugh*, through which runs the great military road to *Inverness*, turns gradually to the north-east, becoming the boundary of the two shires into which *Murray* is divided, viz. *Elgin* and *Nairn*. After receiving many smaller streams, crossing the wood of *Tornaway*, and running at a small distance from the ancient town of *Forres*, declining a little to the north-west, it falls into a basin, which receives likewise a lesser river that runs through *Forres*, and two other little streams, which make all together a better harbour than any of the former, though dry when the tide is out, and with a bar at the mouth of the river, which, however, is less apt to shift, and of consequence the harbour is safer than most of the rest. Not far from this bay stood anciently the rich and famous abbey of *Kinlofs*.

The river *Nairn* also falls into *Murray-Firth*. This *Firth*, according to *Ptolemy*, was the *Æstuarium Vararis*. At the bottom of it, and on the south bank of the river *Nesse*, stands the town of *Inverness*, sometimes, as ancient writers affirm, the residence of the Kings of Scotland.

## 8 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The river *Nesse* is about four miles long, with a stone-bridge over it at *Inverness* of seven arches.

The river *Cannel* is swelled by the water of no less than six lakes, and rolls with a copious stream into *Cromertie-Firth*, passing by *Dingwall*, an old royal burgh, near its fall, and on the south-side, at the mouth of the *Firth* stands *Cromertie*.

All these rivers abound with fish; and the people are very industrious in making the best use they can of the several inlets along the coast, and of the few and those small vessels they have.

In the county of *Strathnaver*, the first stream of consequence we meet with is the river *Strathy*, which runs out of a loch of the same denomination, and, after a course of between 20 and 30 miles, falls into a little creek, which is called *Strathy Bay*. *Armsdale* river, a large stream, but of a much shorter course, is the next; and to the west of this, lies the river *Naver*, flowing from a loch of the same name, the greatest body of water in this county, and from which it derives the appellation of *Strathnaver*.

The river *Irwin* rises on the border of the shire of *Lanerk*: and running a north-west course for about 23 miles, makes the boundary of what was called the bailiwick of *Cunningham*. As it falls into the sea, it meets with another considerable river from the south-west; and by the junction of both these waters is formed a convenient harbour, upon which stands the ancient royal burgh of *Irwin*.

The river *Aire* rises on the edge of *Lanerkshire*, and running through the county of its own name in a west course, near 20 miles, in which space it receives many auxiliary streams, falls at length into what is commonly called the *Firth* of *Clyde*.

The river *Blainoch* rises amongst the mountains which divide the shire of *Aire* from the county of *Galloway*, and running a south-east course 10 or 12 miles,

miles, turns them almost directly east, and receiving in its passage two other pretty large streams, falls into the sea at *Wigton*, where it meets also with the waters of the river *Cree*, and the opening of the shore between them constitutes what is called *Wigton Bay*.

The river *Nethe*, *Nid*, or *Nithe*, rises in the south part of the shire of *Aire*, and running in a winding, but constantly in a south-east course, receives in its passage several rivers, the principal among which are the *Scar* and the *Kairn*, and falls at last, with a very full tide, into the sea, some miles below the town of *Dumfries*.

The river *Annan* has its source at *Arrick Stone*, near those of the *Clyde* and the *Tweed*. It is very remarkable, that though these three rivers rise as it were together, they run into different seas; the *Tweed* into the *German* ocean, the *Clyde* into the *Irish* sea, and the *Annan* into the *Solway Firth*, after passing through the stewartry of *Annandale*, to which it gives name, and a little below the town of *Annan*.

The *Esk* is the last river that runs into the *Solway Firth*.

Thus much for the most remarkable lakes and rivers in *North Britain*.

### *Of the Fisheries in SCOTLAND.*

THE greatest advantages *Scotland* can boast of, are its fisheries. These might prove a mine of infinite wealth to the whole island, as they have long been to the *Dutch*, and would add more to our strength and superiority at sea, than all our foreign traffic; for here we might breed many thousands of hardy seamen, who would always be at hand to man our fleets, when the rest are absent upon distant voyages.

## 10 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Their salmon fishery is very considerable in the rivers *Don* and *Dee* at *Aberdeen*, and in the river *Clyde*. The town of *Renfrew* has employed sixty vessels in this fishery in a season, and great quantities are exported to *France* and *Holland*.

About the northern and western islands is the finest cod-fishery in *Europe*, of which the *Dutch* and *Hamburgers* run away with most of the profits, the islanders selling their fish to them, there being no *British* merchants to take them off their hands, though there cannot be a more profitable branch of business. It is related of an *English* merchant, who used to buy cod-fish, and salt them upon the coast of *Scotland*, that in one voyage he had four thousand of these fish cured at a penny and two-pence a-piece, and sold them again at eighteen-pence and half a crown each.

Herrings abound on all the coasts of the kingdom, but especially in the western isles, which are reckoned the best and fattest, though not so large as those taken on the eastern and northern coasts. The herring-fishing on the *Scots* coast is accounted the best in the world, and the *Dutch* have got a great part of their wealth by it.

Herrings are sometimes bought in the isles for 6*d.* per barrel; and when cured, and sent abroad, yield from 25 to 40*s.* per barrel; and sometimes 36,000 barrels of white herrings have been exported to *France*, from *Clyde* in a season, besides what were exported from *Dunbar*, and other parts of the kingdom, to *France*, and other nations; which may serve as a specimen to shew how capable that trade is of improvement, especially considering the situation of the west of *Scotland* and the isles, from whence they may be a month sooner at market with them, than from any part of *England* and *Holland*; and, with the advantage of taking and curing them cheaper and sooner than the *Dutch* can possibly do, considering how far they



they have to sail backward and forward, what risques they run at sea, and what numbers of tenders they are obliged to send to and again, betwixt their own country, and their doggers, with provisions, salt, &c. they might soon be outdone in that profitable trade by the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, who may lie ashore at night, and land their fish as soon as caught, without any danger from tempests or enemies; many of those bays where herrings abound, being very safe for ships to ride in.

The herring-fishery in the *Forth* lasts annually about two months, and is or might be of great service. They commonly employ there about 800 boats, and in them at least between 5 and 6000 men and boys. It is computed that about 40,000 barrels are caught and cured in a season. These, though lean, are very firm, sound fish, came formerly to a good market in *Sweden*, and are still sold with considerable profit in the *Canaries*, the western islands, and in several parts of *America*. About one sixth of these herrings may be spent at home, and the value of what is exported is modestly computed at 20,000*l*.

The manner in which this fishery is carried on, renders it exceedingly beneficial to the country. The boats belong partly to the fishermen, who employ the rest of the year in catching of white fish; but the greatest part are commonly the property of ship-carpenters, and other persons on shore, who build and equip them in the way of adventurers.

Whales in abundance frequent the islands of *Fladda*, *Orkney*, and *Lewis*: 114 ran ashore on the island of *Orkney* at one time, in the year 1691.

Cod, tusk, and ling, are caught in vast plenty upon all their coasts.

Haddocks, sturgeon, turbot, trouts, perch, pike, scate, greybeard, mackerel, keeling, whiting, sea-urchin, cat fish, cock-paddle, lyths, sparlings, soles, flukes,



## 12 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

flukes, garvie, eels, are also caught on the *Scottish* coasts in great plenty for home consumption.

Otters, whose skins are useful for muffs, &c. are very numerous in the isles.

Shell-fish of all sorts, as lobsters, crabs, oysters, are also found in vast quantities in the western islands; the latter so large, that they must be cut in three or four pieces, to be eaten.

Cockles, mussels, limpets, wilks, scollops, and spouts, are cast by the tide in such numbers on the isles, that the people cannot consume them.

### *Of the Cattle, Horses, Fowls, &c. of SCOTLAND.*

THE country abounds in flocks of sheep, and herds of cattle; which are generally black, except in corn-soils, where they seldom breed or keep any more than are necessary for the plough or the pail. But it is observable, that such as are bred in the corn-countries, are much larger than those bred in other parts, and equal in size to those bred in some parts of *England*, even where the land seems to be better.

In general, their sheep and cattle are much smaller than those of *England*, especially in pasture-lands; yet are they of a far sweeter and more delicious taste than the largest breed of the *English*.

They have also hogs, but not in plenty, except in the north; and a great number of goats, particularly in the north and *HIGHLANDS*; though even there they are now comparatively scarce, owing to their disbarking the trees; the latter they eat themselves, but the former they for the most part pickle and export, as they likewise do vast quantities of salt beef.

In the southern counties there are no deer, except in gentlemen's parks; but every where else they are in great plenty.

They

They breed great numbers of horses, especially in *Galloway* and the *Highlands*; small indeed, but capable of great fatigue; especially if we consider, that they are not only more proper for the saddle, and other uses in that country, which, being hilly, will not admit in many places of teams and carriages; but are more hardy than horses of a larger size, and will thrive upon what would starve great horses. Nevertheless, in many places of the *Lowlands*, they can breed horses fit for war, coach, or carriage.

*Scotland* has not only plenty of domestic fowl, such as are common to other countries, but many that are peculiar to themselves, especially in the islands, where they are in such multitudes, that the inhabitants can neither consume nor vend half of them; but their trade for them still increases, as it has done since the Union.

Their fowl and eggs afford a large fund of trade for food, and their feathers for bedding and other uses.

#### *Of the Linen and Woollen Manufactures of* SCOTLAND.

FLAX abounds in *Scotland*, so that, besides what they consume themselves, they export great quantities of linen, brown and whitened; which is one of the greatest manufactures of the kingdom, and, if duly regulated and encouraged, as it is more and more since the Union, might save a great deal of money in the island, besides what it might bring into it; for the *Scots* have much improved their linen manufacture of late; and, besides fine linen, make very good holland, cambric, muslins, plain and striped, calicoes, damasks, ticking for beds, &c. white and dyed threads, laces, tape, &c.

Mr. *Spruel* (in his Account Current betwixt *Scotland* and *England*) says, he has known, out of a pound of flax

## 14 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

flax of *Scots* growth, which cost but 12*d.* six spangles of fine yarn spun, which was sold at *Glasgow* at about 4*s.* 8*d.* per spangle; which made the product of that 12*d.* to the spinners 28*s.* and, made into fine muslin, that same pound of flax amounted to 10 or 12 dollars, which is 2*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* or 2*l.* 16*s.* the charges of weaving and whitening deducted. He adds, that from one pound of *Scots* flax, lace-makers have made lace to the value of 8*l.* sterling; which is sufficient to shew how much the linen manufacture may be improved there, and how many poor women, who are not capable of employing themselves otherwise, may get a livelihood by it, and what money it may bring into the nation.

Their hemp is also capable of being improved, not only to save money in the island, which is exported for canvas, sailcloth, &c. but also to export, and to make nets for their fishery, and other uses.

The numerous and large flocks of sheep they have in *Scotland* produce abundance of wool, from whence come manufactures of several sorts; as broad-cloth, coarse or housewife's cloth, singrimis, serges, bays, crapes, temmin, *Glasgow* plaids, worsted camblets, and other stuffs, and stockings, for home-consumption and export; besides their tallow and skins. Their wool is not so fine as that of *England*, by reason the country is almost every where destitute of all manner of shelter for their sheep during the winter, which is often very severe; yet they have brought their broad-cloth lately to great perfection, but can never equal *England* in that part of the woollen manufacture: however, it is very proper for serges, bays, camblets, shalloons, and other stuffs; and by due regulation is capable of great improvement for a foreign trade.

An instance of what great improvement may be made of their wool, we have from Mr. *Spruel* (in his *Account Current*); viz. that they make such fine

worsted stockings at *Aberdeen*, that they yield 10, 15, 20, and 30*s.* a pair for womens stockings; which shews, that they are capable of making stockings at lower rates, especially considering that they have store of very good wool brought thither from the *Highlands* and isles; which, because sold at the cross of *Aberdeen*, is commonly called cross-wool. The most remarkable places besides in *Scotland*, for good wool, are *Galloway* and *Tweeddale*; from which great improvement might be made in bays, serges, and shalloons.

The *Scots* plaids are a manufacture, in which, they exceed all nations, both as to colour and fineness; but the women having disused them for garments, they are only worn by the dregs of the people; and the *Highlanders* being forbidden the use of them by law, the manufacture is of late greatly decreased. Their greatest trade for their woollen manufactures, and other commodities, has for many years been with the *United Netherlands*, where they have a Conservator, who serves both for a consul and envoy, to take care of the affairs of their trade, being part of the ancient privileges they enjoyed by treaties with the dukes of *Burgundy* and others, when sovereigns of the *Netherlands*. From this trade the towns of *Rotterdam* and *Ter-veer* have acquired considerable wealth; in return for which, the *Scots* have been always well esteemed in those provinces; and the states allow them churches, and maintenance for their ministers.

#### *Of the Grain and Pulse of SCOTLAND.*

THE wheat of *Scotland* is so excellent, that *Joseph Scaliger*, who had been in the country, says, no bread in *Europe* is comparable to what is made of it, for whiteness, lightness, and easy digestion; and I found what he says of it to be strictly true. It is propagated every where in the *Lowlands*, and in all the vallies

## 16 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

vallies of the *Highlands*; and the kingdom raises not only enough for their own consumption, but for exportation.

Oats are the most universal grain of the kingdom, and exceed those in *England*, for all uses. They thrive very well every where, and are produced in such quantities, as afford a considerable fund for export, both in grain and meal, and make very good bread and drink.

Peas they have in great plenty, both for their own consumption and for exportation; and they are so good of the kind, that the labouring husbandmen make good nourishing bread of them.

Beans they have also in great plenty for their own use, and for export.

Barley grows likewise very well in *Scotland*; but they sow more of that sort they call bear, which has four rows of grain upon an ear; whereas other barley has but two: of this they make good bread, broth, ale, and beer, and export great quantities.

Rye grows also very well in *Scotland*, and makes good bread; but they do not cultivate it nearly so much as they do the grain above mentioned.

### *Of the Mountains, Wood, Timber, &c. of SCOTLAND.*

THE most remarkable mountains of *Scotland* are the *Grampian* mountains, which run from east to west, from near *Aberdeen* to *Cowall* in *Argyleshire*, almost the whole breadth of the kingdom, famous for the battle fought on them betwixt the *Romans* and the ancient *Scots* and *Caledonians*, under the conduct of *Galgacus*, as we find in *Tacitus*. The next most remarkable chain of mountains are those of *Lammermoor*, which run from the eastern coast in the *Merse* a great way west. Next to these are *Pentland* hills, which  
run

run through the whole breadth of the island. Other remarkable mountains are those called *Cheviot hills*, in the border betwixt the two kingdoms; *Drumderlaw* and *North Berwicklaw*, both in *East-Lothian*; *Arthur's-seat* in *Mid-Lothian*; *Cairnapple* in *West-Lothian*; *Tentock* in *Clydsdale*; *Brainmore* in *Argyle*; the *Ochel* mountains in *Perthshire*; the *Leuwmonds* and *Largolaw* in *Fife*; in *Angus*, *Dundeelaw*, and part of the *Grampians*; in *Caithness*, *Ord*; and in the *Orkney* islands, the mountains of *Hoy*.

There are many large woods of oak in *Scotland*, which afford materials for building and shipping, and for the husbandman's use; and the country is very improveable this way, if planting were more encouraged; however, they have at present not only such as are fit for the uses above mentioned, but also for pipe-slaves and barrels; and their bark is of use to the tanners, great quantities of which are annually exported to *Ireland*, and elsewhere. They have likewise ash-trees, elms, and others, fit for building, and other domestic uses; and great forests of fir, which afford materials for building and shipping; and might, with due care, afford pitch and tar, without being obliged to bring such large quantities from the northern countries, as is usually done by the inhabitants of *Britain*.

There were formerly many large woods in *Scotland*, among which the forest of *Caledonia* was famous; but there are now not the least traces of it left.

The woods are more rare than formerly in the southern parts of the kingdom; of which the most remarkable now left are those of *Hamilton*, *Calender*, and *Torwood*: but in the north, especially in *Perthshire*, *Lochaber*, *Badenoch*, and *Mar*, there are many forests, some of them 20, and some 30 miles in length.

They have abundance of fruit-trees of all sorts in their gardens and orchards, and might, by improvement, not only have sufficient to afford them fruit for home

## 18 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

home consumption, but also cyder for their own drinking and export.

### *Of the Medicinal Waters, Fountains, Springs, &c.*

THE most remarkable mineral waters in Scotland are *Moffat Wells*, which lie at the distance of a mile from *Moffat* in *Annandale*. These springs are situated on the declivity of a hill, and on the brow of a precipice, with high mountains at a distance, and almost on every side of them. The hill is the second from *Hartfield*, adjoining the highest hill in Scotland. A vein of spar runs for several miles on this range of hills, and forms the bottom and lower sides of the wells. It is a greyish spar, having polished and shining surfaces of regular figures, interspersed with glittering particles of a golden colour, which are very copious and large. These two springs are separated from each other by a small rock, the higher well lying with its mouth south-east. It is of an irregular square figure, and is about eighteen inches deep. The lower well is surrounded with naked rocks, and forms a small arch of a circle: its depth is four feet and a half; and, by a moderate computation, the two springs yield 40 loads of water in 24 hours, each load containing 64 or 68 *Scotch* pints: a *Scotch* pint is two *English* quarts. The higher shallow well is used for bathing, as it is not capable of being kept so clean as the lower well, on account of the shallowness and the lowness of its parts. These waters are strongly sulphureous, and resemble the scourings of a foul gun. The colour of the water is somewhat milky or bluish. The soil on every side of the wells is thin, and the hills rocky, only just below the wells there is a small moss, caused by the falling of the water from the hill above it. Great is the medicinal virtue of these waters, in relieving inwardly, colics, pains in  
the



the stomach, griping of the guts, bilious and nephretic, nervous and hysteric colics; the gravel, by carrying off quantities of sand, (but does not dissolve the slimy gravel), and clearing the urinary passage in a surprising manner; in curing ichuries, and ulcerated kidneys; the gout, the palsy; and is a sovereign remedy in rheumatic and scorbutic pains, even when the limbs are much swelled, usefess, and covered with scales. It is applied outwardly in St. Anthony's fire, tumours, &c.

*Mahon's Well*, near St. *Mahon's* church, has the same virtue, but does not operate so strongly; and there is a well of the same nature discovered not many years ago at *Hallyards*, within six miles of *Edinburgh*.

*Montrose Spa* is of a whitish colour, soft taste, and discovers but little of the mineral. It is very diuretic, and, if drank in a sufficient quantity, purgative. It relieves pains in the stomach, weaknesses of all kinds, the strangury, gravel, stone; scurvies even in the worst condition, and spitting of blood.

*Peterhead Spring*, in the shire of *Aberdeen*, is celebrated as a vitriolic water in the last century, by Dr. *Moore*, professor of medicine in that ancient university. The waters are pretty much of the same nature with those of

The spring of *Aberbrothock* in the county of *Angus*; which are apparently impregnated with steel. This water has a brisk spirituous taste at the well; yet tolerably bears carriage to some distance. It relieves in gravelly and scorbutic cases; removes acidity in the stomach: but its greatest virtue is in nervous cases, and broken constitutions.

The *Dunse Spa* in the *Merse*, appears, upon a strict examination, to be a very pure chalybeate spring; but, notwithstanding the simplicity of its contents, of very powerful virtue when drank on the spot. The scum, that settles on the surface, has been applied with success



## 20 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

cesses to weak eyes. The water taken under proper directions, to the amount of two quarts in 24 hours, removes flatulencies in the stomach; cures indigestion; frees children from the worms; strengthens the bowels; and is of singular service in the scurvy, and also in scrophulous cases. In nervous and even in spasmodic cases there are instances of its efficacy; and of its curing palsies even in old people; the credit, therefore, of this spring may be considered as thoroughly established. See Dr. *Hume's Essay on the Virtues of these waters, Edinburgh, 1751, 8vo.*

*Glendy Spa* rises at a small distance from the famous *Kairn* on the top of the *Grampian Hills*, in a bog, with moss round about, and no rock near it. It mounts up in bubbles, as if boiling, through the moss, which is loaded with ochre. These waters may be drank with little or no preparation, and are serviceable in removing gravelly complaints, in most scurvies, and cutaneous distempers; and particularly beneficial in nervous cases, and in a general bad habit of body.

*Kincardine Spa* is a pure chalybeate, and has very near the same properties with the spa of *Aberbrothock*.

At *Kinghorne*, a very clear and cold water flows from the clefts of a rock, which quickly passes through the body. It is of excellent use for recovering a lost appetite, and against the gravel and stone; it is outwardly applied to watery and itching eyes, and against redness and pimples in the face. The famous Dr. *P. Anderson* wrote upon its usefulness. There flows also from the same rock a whitish viscid liquor, which is an excellent cosmetic.

*Arthrey Well*, two miles north of *Stirling*, flows from a mountain; where is a copper mine, with some mixture of gold and silver: the water is very cold, and, being tinged with the minerals it flows through, is of use against outward distempers.

In

In *Glenelg*, at a place called *Achignigle*, is a stream which turns holly into a greenish stone, of which they make moulds for casting musquet bullets, melting-pots for melting brass, and other metals.

There is a petrifying fountain, near the castle of *Slaine*, in the shire of *Buchan*, the water of which, dropping from a natural cave, presently turns into pyramids of stones, which are brittle, and make good lime.

There is another in *Hamilton* wood, the stones made by which resemble petrified moss.

At a very small distance west from *Aberdeen* springs *Aberdeen Spa*; the virtues of which, in many chronic distempers, have been celebrated by Dr. *William Barclay*, professor of physic in that university.

At a small distance from *Cortachie*, the Earl of *Airley's* seat, on the river of *South-Esk*, arises a steel water, at the foot of a hill, amongst rocky stones, that sparkle like marcasites when they are broken. These waters resemble in a great measure, and have much the same virtue as, those of *Aberbrothock*, and are both drank with the greatest success immediately after the ceasing of the spring rains; that is, in the months of *May* and *June*, or, before those of the autumn, in the months of *August* and *September*.

In the year 1748 a very valuable mineral spring was discovered, on the *Hartfell* mountains, three miles distant from *Moffat*; known to cure hot tetters eruptions, obstinate ulcers, bloody-flux, bloody urine, spitting of blood, rheumatic pains, and weaknesses of every kind, more especially those arising from long illnesses. But, what must appear very singular, and the belief of which nothing but the evidence of facts could support, these waters have done most surprising cures in consumptions of the lungs in a very short time; and, what renders the *Hartfell Spa* still more valuable, its waters bear carriage as well, if not better,

ter, than any of like virtue; and may be drank, with very near the same advantage, at any distance, as upon the spot. See Medical Essays and Observations, vol. ii. p. 15.

St. *Katharine's Well* in *Lothian*, at a small distance from *Edinburgh*, has been long remarkable for an oil of a black colour, and pleasant smell, floating on the top of the waters; which has been used medicinally, with great success, for old aches, and wandering pains.

At *Monkton*, near *Edinburgh*, is a well, called, *The routing Well*; because of the noise it makes before tempests, from the part of the well which looks towards that quarter of the sky, from whence the tempest is to blow.

In 1761, a well was discovered at *Edinburgh*, the water of which is much like that of *Moffat* in taste, and has been blessed with the same success in the cure of ulcers, obstructions in the bowels, &c.

### *Of Precious Stones, and other valuable Commodities.*

THE following valuable commodities, and precious stones, are said to be found in different parts of *Scotland*.

Coral and coralline in the isles of *Lewes*, *Sky*, and *Jura*.

Ambergris, on the coasts of the island of *Bernera*, *South-vist*, *Bintire*, and *Orkney*.

Marcasites, lapis ceraunius, lapis hecticus, agat of different sizes and colours; all in the isle of *Sky*.

Crystat, in the isles of *Sky*, *Arran*, and *St. Kilda*.

Fullers-earth, in the isle of *Sky*.

Fine shells, which pass in *Africa* for money, in the isles.

Loadstone, in the isle of *Cannay*.

Spermaceti, on the coasts of *Orkney*, and other isles.

Mines

Mines of gold, in *Craufurd Moor*. Also azure, in the reign of *James IV.*

Silver mines, three miles south of *Linlithgow*, in the reign of *James VI.*

Copper, in *Airthey*, near *Stirling*.

Lead, in *Clydsdale*, of which the earl of *Hopton* makes good account.

Lead and tin in *Orkney*.

Iron, at *Dunfermling* in *Fife*.

Coal, in *Lothian*, *Fife*, &c.

Free-stone, slate, lime-stone, marble, in great plenty, all over the country.

### *Of the Customs, Manners, Language, &c. of the Scots.*

THE Scots are divided into *Highlanders*, who call themselves the ancient *Scots*; and into *Lowlanders*, who are a mixture of ancient *Scots*, *Picts*, *Britons*, *French*, *English*, *Danes*, *Germans*, *Hungarians*, and others.

*Buchanan* describes the customs of the *Highlanders* graphically thus: "In their diet, apparel, and household-furniture, they follow the parsimony of the ancients; they provide their diet by fishing and hunting, and boil their flesh in the paunch or skin of a beast. While they hunt, they eat it raw, after having squeezed out the blood. Their drink is the broth of boiled meat, or whey: they keep it some years, and drink it plentifully in their entertainments; but most of them drink water. Their bread is of oats and barley, the only grain produced in their country, which they prepare very artfully: they eat a little of it in the morning, and contenting themselves with that, hunt, or go about their business, without eating any more till night. They delight most in cloaths of several colours, especially striped; the colours they affect most,

## 24 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

most, are purple and blue. Their ancestors, as do most of them still, made use of plaids very much variegated; but now they make them rather of dark colours, resembling that of the crops of heath, that they may not be discovered, while they lie in the heaths waiting for their game. Being rather wrapped up than covered with those plaids, they endure all the rigours of the seasons, and sometimes sleep covered all over with snow."

Here let me observe, that in my tour through these parts, when I have been forced by the weather to retreat for shelter into their huts, I have seen their children, several sometimes in a hut, full of the small-pox, and, at their height, they have been walking and lying in the wet and dirt, the rain at the same time beating violently through the thatch: yet they seemed hearty, drinking whey and butter-milk, and generally do very well\*.

*Buchanan* proceeds:

"At home they lie upon the ground, having under them fern or heath (covered with a sheet or blanket); the latter laid with the roots undermost, so as it is almost equal to feathers for softness, but much more healthful; for the quality of heath being to draw out superfluous humours, when they lie down weary and faint upon it at night, they rise fresh and vigorous in the morning. They affect this hard way of sleeping; and if at any time they come into other places of the country, where there is better accommodation, they pull the coverings off the bed, and lie down upon them, wrapped in their plaids, lest they should be spoiled by this barbarous effeminacy, as they call it."

\* They practised inoculation long before *Lady Mary Wortley Montague* introduced it into *England*, by laying the pock on the skin, which produces the same effect as if an incision was made. Their regimen under the distemper above mentioned is at length justified by modern practice.

Since

by the act of the *British* Parliament, which passed in 1746, for obliging them to alter their dress, they have been gradually diminishing, and it is not doubted but, in a few years, their ancient dress will be totally laid aside, which is the more to be regretted, as every thing which creates a distinction is valuable to every kingdom.

*Camden* speaks of the *Highlanders* as follows: "These parts are inhabited by a people uncivilized, warlike, and very mischievous, commonly called *Red-men*; who, being the true race of the ancient *Picts*, speak *Irish*, and call themselves *Albin-nich* (*Macalbin*); a people that are of firm and compact body, of great strength, swift of foot, high-minded, and fond of exercises of war, or rather robbery, and are entirely bent upon revenge. They wear, after the manner of the *Irish*, striped mantles (plaids) of various colours, with their hair thick and long; living by hunting, fishing, and stealing. In war, their arms were formerly a head-piece, and a coat of mail; their arms a bow, barbed arrows, and a broadsword;" [but late a broad-sword, a durk and a target at their girdle, and a target at their shoulder:] "being divided into families, which they call *clans*; and what with plundering and murdering, they have committed such barbarous outrages, that their savage nature hath made the law necessary, which enacts, that if one of any clan hath committed a trespass, he shall repair the damage; or whoever of them shall suffer death."

The manners and customs of the modern *Highlanders* will be seen hereafter.

*Lowlanders* partake much of the temper of the *Highlanders*, of whom we have mentioned them to be descended, but most resemble the *French*, occasioned by the long league between the two nations, the commerce, frequent inter-marriages, and custom

## 24 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

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## 26 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

of travelling into *France* to study the law, and other sciences, and by their affecting to serve in the *French* armies. But, since the union of the crowns, the *English* customs, and way of living, have obtained much in the *Lowlands*, where the *English* tongue has been their natural language for above 600 years; but still retains more ancient *Saxon* and *French*. This being extraordinary, and perhaps singular, that a foreign language should prevail in a country altogether independent of *England*, and where the inhabitants are of another lineage, and maintained such fierce and long wars to preserve their distinct sovereignty; the *Scottish* antiquaries and historians give the following reasons for it.

1. The frequent *Saxon* auxillaries sent to assist the *Picts* against the *Scots*, which occasioned many of those *Saxons* to settle in the *Lowlands* of *Scotland*, then possessed by the *Picts*.

2. The last considerable effort made by the *Picts*, in conjunction with the *English*, to recover their country against *Donald V.* of *Scotland*; who, after he had defeated the *English* and *Picts* upon the river *Jedd*, in *Triviotdale*, neglecting to improve his victory, was afterwards surpris'd by them near *Berwick*, and taken prisoner, after a great slaughter of his men. Upon this success, the *English*, under the conduct of *Osbreth* and *Ella*, possessed themselves of the country, as far as *Dumbarton*, without restoring the *Picts*; the major part of which retired to *Denmark* and *Norway*, and the remainder were cut off by the *English*, to prevent their calling in foreigners. Thus the *English* continued in possession of that part of the country, from the year 858, till about the year 875, when king *Gregory the Great* of *Scotland* recovered the country, and the *Scottish* proprietors the possession of their estates; but willingly entertained the *English* comonalty and husbandmen, who were as desirous to stay,

stay, their own country being, at that time, infested by the *Danes*; and they rather chose to be under the dominion of the *Scots*, who were Christians, than under that of the *Danes*, who were Pagans.

3. Great numbers of the *English* came into *Scotland* to assist king *Malcolm III.* against the usurper *Macbeth*, whom he rewarded, after his victory, with possessions in *Scotland*.

4. A great many *English* came to *Scotland*, after the *Norman* conquest, with *Edgar Atheling*, and his sister *Margaret*, who was afterwards married to king *Malcolm* above mentioned; which makes the reasons of the *Scots* historians for the prevailing of the *English* language in the *Lowlands* of *Scotland*, very probable.

It has been gaining ground upon the old *Scots* language ever since, which is now confined to the *Highlands*, and the isles, where most of those of note also understand *English*: though about 100 years ago, the old people in *Galloway* generally understood the *Erse*, or ancient *Scots* language, which is now, in a manner, quite worn out, except in the *Highlands*.

#### Of the Religion and Ecclesiastical Government of SCOTLAND.

THE established religion of *Scotland*, since the Revolution, and confirmed by the Act of Union, is what is called the Presbyterian; being a church government by pastors, teachers, elders, and deacons. Before the Revolution, the church was governed by bishops; but they, not at all relishing the new settlement, were abolished.

The ecclesiastical courts, as they now stand, are four, viz.

1. The kirk-session, consisting of the minister, elders, and deacons, in each parish, who consider the affairs of the parish as a religious society. They

## 28. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

judge in all matters of lesser scandals, can suspend from the communion, and regulate all particulars relating to public worship and the poor.

2. The presbytery, which consists of the minister, and one elder, from 5 to 10, 12, or more neighbouring parishes, who chuse one of these ministers to be præsides, or moderator. Here are tried appeals from the kirk-sessions: and here they inspect into the behaviour of the ministers and elders within their respective bounds. They supply vacant parishes, ordain pastors, examine and license schoolmasters, and young students for probationary preachers; and judge when, or on whom, to inflict the greater excommunication.

3. The provincial synod: this is composed of all the members of several adjacent presbyteries. It meets twice a year, at some principal place within its bounds, and is opened by a sermon. Their business is, to receive correspondents from the neighbouring synods, who are a check upon one another; to determine appeals from the presbyteries in their district; to enquire into and censure the behaviour of the presbyteries themselves. They likewise have power to transport or remove a minister from one place to another, which often occasions great disturbance. Hence lie appeals, however, to

4. The general assembly, the highest ecclesiastical court in the kingdom, which meets yearly in the month of *May*, and sits about 10 days. A lord commissioner, who is always a nobleman of the first quality, presides here, as a representative of the King's person. All the members of this are annually elected; and the moderator of the last year's assembly opens the new sessions with a sermon.

The same discipline, as to the main of the several forms and proceedings, was observed in the episcopal times, only they had no lay-elders: the bishop or his deputy, being a minister or ministers, within the bounds,

bounds, presided in all presbyteries and diocesan synods, as the archbishop of *St. Andrew's* did in the national or general assemblies. For it must be observed, that episcopacy in *Scotland* differed from episcopacy in *England*; for here it was as low as the nature of an episcopal church could admit: the bishops were *sine quibus non*, they had no lay-chancellors, but did all things *presbyterorum consilio*.

During the time of the episcopacy, *Scotland* contained two archbishoprics, *St. Andrew's*, and *Glasgow*; and twelve bishoprics, which were *Edinburgh*, *Dunkeld*, *Aberdeen*, *Murray*, *Birchin*, *Dumblain*, *Ross*, *Caithness*, *Orkney*, *Galloway*, *Argyle*, and the *Isles*.

The 13 provincial synods, into which *Scotland* is at present divided, are,

1. *Labian* and *Twèedale*, consisting of seven presbyteries; viz. *Edinburgh*, *Linlithgow*, *Biggar*, *Peebles*, *Dalkeith*, *Haddington*, and *Dumbar*.

2. *Merse* and *Tiviotdale*, consisting of six presbyteries; viz. *Dunse*, *Chirside*, *Kelse*, *Jedburgh*, *Selkirk*, *Erfulton*.

3. *Dumfries*, consists of four presbyteries; viz. *Middlebee*, *Lochmaban*, *Pentpont*, and *Dumfries*.

4. *Galloway* consists of three presbyteries; viz. *Wigton*, *Stranraer*, and *Kircudbright*.

5. *Glasgow* and *Air* consist of seven presbyteries; viz. *Air*, *Irvin*, *Paisley*, *Hamilton*, *Lanerk*, *Glasgow*, *Dumbarton*.

6. *Argyle* and *Air* consist of five presbyteries; viz. *Denoan*, *Cambleton*, *Inverary*, *Kilmoir*, *Sky*.

7. *Perth* and *Stirling* contain five presbyteries; viz. *Dunkeld*, *Perth*, *Dumblane*, *Stirling*, *Auchterarder*.

8. *Fife* contains four presbyteries; viz. *Dunfermling*, *Kirkaldy*, *St. Andrew's*, *Cowpar*.

9. *Angus* and *Mernes* contain six presbyteries; viz. *Meigle*, *Dundee*, *Forfar*, *Brechin*, *Aberbrothock*, *Fordun*.

## 30 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

10. *Aberdeen* consists of eight presbyteries; viz. *Kincardin, Aberdeen, Alford, Garioch, Deer, Turreff, Fordice, Ellon.*

11. *Murray* consists of six presbyteries; viz. *Strathbogie, Elgin, Forres, Inverness, Abernethy, Aberlower.*

12. *Ross* consists of four presbyteries; viz. *Chanony, Tain, Dingwall, Dornoch.*

13. *Orkney*, consists of three presbyteries; viz. *Caithness, Orkney, Zetland.*

The law of *Scotland* has provided against pluralities; and throughout the whole country there are no benefices worth less than 50*l. per ann.* sterling; which, in that country, is a good maintainance; nor any that exceed 150*l. per ann.*

In the 17<sup>th</sup> year of his late Majesty's reign, an act was made, whereby ministers in *Scotland* taxed themselves, in order to raise, by annual rates, out of their stipends, a fund for support of the widows and children of the established clergy of *Scotland*; by which the relict of each minister is to be allowed an annuity, and his child or children a certain sum, in proportion to the rate he annually paid.

### *Of the Order of the Thistle, or St. Andrew, in SCOTLAND.*

THE order of *St. Andrew*, or the Thistle, by reason of its great antiquity, and memorable institution, is, upon all occasions, called The most Ancient and most Noble Order of the Thistle, being founded, as all the *Scotch* historians assert, by *Achaius* the 65<sup>th</sup> king of *Scotland*, after a signal victory obtained over the *Saxons*, anno 819, and dedicated to *St. Andrew*, the patron or tutelar saint of *Scotland*.

This order came at length to shine forth in fuller splendor in the reign of king *James V.* who was himself

self a splendid and magnificent prince. He caused the collar of the order to be composed of two ancient badges or symbols of the *Scots* and *Picts*; viz. the thistle and sprigs of rue; but about the time of the Reformation it fell into desuetude, and was then rarely used by the knights; being so very zealous for the reformed religion, that they left their order, where they laid down their popery; and it was never after re-assumed, till the reign of king *James VII.* who, for the better regulating of the order in all its proceedings, signed a body of the statutes, and appointed the knights brethren to wear the image of *St. Andrew* upon a blue watered tabby ribband; and likewise named the royal chapel, or abbey church of *Holy Rood House* to be the chapel of the order (the old church of *St. Andrew* being ruined at the Reformation); for which end it was put in excellent repair, but was divested of all its beautiful ornaments by a furious rabble at the late Revolution.

Her late majesty queen *Anne* was pleased to revive the said order upon the 31st of *December, 1703*, and signed a body of statutes, wherein the colour of the ribband was changed from blue to green, to make a distinction between this order and that of the Garter: all which statutes the late king *George I.* was pleased to confirm, with some additional ones, among which was that of adding rays of glory to surround the whole figure of *St. Andrew*, which hangs at the collar. And though, from the time of the Reformation, both elections and instalments had been dispensed with, his majesty was pleased to order, that for the future chapters for election shall be held in the royal presence; to which end he commanded the great wardrobe to provide the knight's brethren, and officers of the order, with such mantles, as are appointed by the statutes of the order.



*Of the Civil Government of SCOTLAND.*

**T**HE College of Justice, commonly called, The Court of Session, consists of a president and fourteen fixed senators, or judges, called Ordinary Lords of Session, and two extraordinary lords; and they have seven clerks of session, and six other inferior officers. Before this court all civil causes are tried at stated times, which they determine by acts of Parliament, and the custom of the nation; and, where these are defective, they decide according to the imperial and civil law, not according to the rigour of the letter, but according to equity and justice. There lies no appeal from this court, but to the Parliament; and the presence of nine judges is required to make their decrees valid. The Parliament has full power to affirm or reverse, with costs not exceeding 200*l.* sterling.

This court has distributive justice only, both in law and equity; but no authority as to life or limb, unless for some faults competent to themselves. Since the Union, lords of session are appointed a committee for planting of churches, and valuation of tythes.

The High Court of Justiciary consists of five lords of the session, and the justice-general and justice-clerk. They try all crimes. All prosecutions in this court are raised by the king's advocate; and the greatest traitor is, here, allowed advocates to plead for him.

The Court of Exchequer was established in pursuance of the Act of Union, in the sixth year of queen *Anne*; and has the same power, authority, privilege, and jurisdiction over the revenue of *Scotland*, as the Court of Exchequer in *England* has over the revenues there. The judges have also the power of passing signatures, gifts, and tutories, &c. The court consists



sists of a chief, and four other barons; and it has two remembrancers, a clerk of the pipe, attornies, auditors, and other officers.

The officers of state are,

1. The keeper of the seal, and his officers.
2. The lord privy seal, and his officers.
3. Lord clerk register, and his officers.
4. Lord advocate.

The Faculty of Advocates enjoy many and great privileges with the rest of the college of justice; and have a dean, treasurer, clerk, curator, and other officers.

Writers of the signet are those, who subscribe all writs and summonses that pass the signet; and they, as well as the advocates, are capable of being made ordinary lords.

Besides the above national judges, every particular county or shire has a chief magistrate, or his depute, ordinary judge in all cases civil and criminal; but an appeal lies from this magistrate, in most cases, to the Session and Court of Justiciary.

The sheriff is, in effect, the supreme justice of peace, to whom the law principally intrusts the securing the quiet and tranquillity of the part of the kingdom of which he is sheriff. King *James VI.* and king *Charles I.* bought in some, and designed to buy in all the rest, of these heretable sheriffalties; but most of them yet remain in the great families of the kingdom.

Bailiffs, stewards, and constables, in their respective districts, have the same liberty as sheriffs in their shires. When the jurisdiction act passed, in 1748, all the heretable sheriffalties were purchased by the crown, which has now the full right of appointing sheriffs, and sheriffs-depute. The judges also now go their circuits to try criminals, as is practised in *South Britain*.

### 34 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

There are three sorts of burghs; viz. Burghs Royal, Burghs of Regality, and Burghs of Barony; every one whereof is a corporation, and holds courts, though only the royal burghs send members to Parliament.

The Royal Burghs are one entire body, governed by, and accountable to, one general court, called the Convention of Burrows, which is annually held, generally at *Edinburgh*, and has cognizance of all matters relating to the trade and interest of all the burghs in general.

Regalities were feus granted by the king to some particular subjects, whose authority and jurisdiction were very large and extensive, both in civil and criminal cases; and the lord or his baillie, had not only the power of *furca & fessa*, pit and gallows; but a jurisdiction with the magistrate *in civilibus*. But these regalities have been all abolished, by consent of the proprietors of them, by virtue of an act made 20 Geo. II. for that very purpose.

As to Burghs of Barony, every one that holds a barony of the crown, has a court wherein lesser causes, both civil and criminal, are tried, &c.

The Commissariot Courts are a kind of ecclesiastical courts. The commissaries of *Edinburgh*, who are four, particularly try causes of matrimony and adultery, in order to a plenary divorce, not only *a toro & mensa*, but even *a vinculo matrimonii*; so that the innocent party may marry, as if the offending party were naturally dead.

The Court of Admiralty is a supreme court, in all the causes competent to his own jurisdiction; and the lord high admiral is the king's lieutenant and justice-general upon the seas, and in all ports, harbours, and creeks of the same, and upon fresh water and navigable rivers below the first bridge, or within flood-mark. And no appeal lies to the court of session for maritime

maritime matters. All maritime causes, crimes, faults, trespasses, quarrels, &c. are triable before the lord admiral's judge (for he himself never judges in person) by the civil law, and customs of *Scotland*. Nevertheless, there are some particular jurisdictions of admiralty hereditary in some great families; as the duke of *Argyle*, who is admiral of the *Western Isles*; the earl of *Sutherland*, of the shire of that name; the earl of *Morton*, of *Orkney*, and *Zetland*,\* &c. And such men of war as come up the *Firth of Forth*, for guarding and securing the coasts, receive orders from the lord provost of *Edinburgh* †.

By the 6th of *Queen Anne*, justices of peace are established in *Scotland*, with the same authority as those in *England*.

*A short View of the Acts of Parliament of Great Britain, that have made any Alteration in the Laws of SCOTLAND, from the Union of the two Kingdoms, Anno 1707.*

UNION of the two kingdoms.] By 5 *A. R.* cap. 8. it was enacted, that the kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland* should be united into one kingdom, by the name of *Great Britain*, to commence on the first of *May*, 1707.

Parliament.] That the said united kingdom should be represented by one Parliament.

Succession of the crown.] That the succession of the crown be settled in the Protestant branches of the house of *Hanover*, as it stands limited in *England*.

Land-tax.] That when 1,997,763*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*  $\frac{1}{2}$  shall be raised in *England* by a land-tax, the quota for *Scot-*

\* The *Orkney* islands were sold by the late earl of *Morton*, to Sir *Laurence Dundas*, Bart. with the consent of his heir.

† These jurisdictions have been abolished by the act above mentioned, and vested in the crown.

## 36 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

land should be 48,000*l.* as the quota of that kingdom; *Scotland* not to be charged with any duties laid on by the Parliament of *England* before the Union.

Coin, weights, and measures.] To be the same as in *England*.

Trade, customs, and excise.] The subjects of the united kingdom shall have free trade to all places belonging to either. To be regulated, as in *England*, throughout the united kingdom.

29 *Geo. II. c. 12.* A method is prescribed for granting licences to retail ale, &c.

Civil government.] The courts of session, or college of justice, the courts of justiciary, and the inferior courts of *Scotland*, to remain as they are; and no cause in *Scotland* to be cognizable in the courts of *Westminster*.

20 *Geo. II. cap. 43.* Regulations of the sheriff's court.

Offenders of dittay.] 8 *A. cap. 15.* The method of taking up offenders by dittay, and exhibiting informations by the strefs of the portous roll, abolished.

8 *A. cap. 15.* Informations in order to make up dittays concerning crimes to be tried in the circuits in *Scotland*, to be by presentments made by the justices at their quarter-sessions, or upon information taken by them for stewards, bailiffs of regalities, &c.

20 *Geo. II. cap. 43.* Advocacion of causes under 12*l.* value, discharged.

Superiors, vassals, disarming *Highlanders*.

1 *Geo. I. cap. 20.* An act for encouraging all superiors, vassals, landlords, and tenants, who continue loyal to king *George*.

By 25 *Geo. II. cap. 41.* the crown is enabled to purchase superiorities in *Scotland*.

Vassals attendance.] 1 *Geo. I. cap. 54.* enjoins, that the personal service and attendance, which was wont  
to

to be paid to the heads of clans, and owners of estates, at the pleasures of such chiefs, under the names of personal attendance, hosting, hunting, watching, and warding, shall be, for the future, paid in money annually; and the said personal service, &c. shall be utterly annulled.

This act was farther enforced in the same reign, 11 Geo. I. cap. 26. on the non-observance of the former, by many of the contemptuous *Highlanders*.

21 Geo. II. cap. 33. Encouragement to vassals continuing dutiful.

*Highlanders disarmed.*] 1 Geo. I. cap. 54. An act for more effectual securing the peace of the *Highlands* in *Scotland*; which enacts, that no person within the said *Highlands*, shall use or bear broad-swords or target, poynard, wingar, or dirk, side-pistol, or gun, or any warlike weapons, in the fields, or in the way to or from any church, market, fair, burial, huntings, meetings, &c. However, not to extend to noblemen, officers of justice, or commoners, having yearly 400*l.* *Scots*, or who are otherwise qualified to vote at elections for Parliament-men; allowing to every such commoner two firelocks, two pair of pistols, and two swords; and that the magistrates of the royal burghs may keep arms in magazines.

Two other, 19 Geo. II. cap. 39. and 21 Geo. II. cap. 34. for disarming the *Highlands*.

26 Geo. II. cap. 22. *Stirlingshire* included.

19, 20, and 21 Geo. II. No persons, but soldiers in the army, are to wear *Highland* cloaths, that is to say, the plaid, philbeg, or little kilt, trouse, shouldebels or any part of the *Highland* garb.

Equivalent.

5 Geo. I. cap. 27. Commissioners are appointed to state the debts due to *Scotland*, by way of equivalents. Also,

5 Geo.

## 38 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

5 *Geo. I. cap. 20.* An act for settling certain yearly funds, payable out of the revenues in *Scotland*, and other uses mentioned in the treaty of Union; and to discharge the equivalents claimed on behalf of *Scotland*; and for obviating future disputes concerning it. *N. B.* This equivalent was stated by the Union act, at 398,085*l.* 10*s.*

The said fund to be payable out of the excise and customs of *Scotland*; the charges of the civil list there being first paid.

If the produce of the excise, &c. shall be deficient, to be made good out of the revenues of *Scotland*.

Proprietors of debts incorporated.] The King empowered to incorporate the proprietors of 248,550*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.*  $\frac{1}{2}$ , on whom the above said annuities are settled: the said sum to be the joint stock of the company, and every one to have a share in the annuity in proportion to his debt.

### Elections of Peers and Commoners.

Sixteen Peers of *Scotland* to be chosen out of the *Scots* peerage, to sit and vote in the House of Lords; and forty-five representatives of *Scotland*, in the House of Commons of the Parliament of *Great Britain*; thirty for the shires, &c. and fifteen for the royal burghs.

12 *A. cap. 6.* No person who has purchased an estate, intitled to elect, or be elected, a member of Parliament, till after a year's possession.

*Anno 1734.* An act for better regulating the election of members to serve in the House of Commons for *Scotland*; and for incapacitating the judges of the court of Justiciary, and barons of the Exchequer there, to be elected, or to sit and vote as members of the House of Commons.

6 *A. cap. 23.* An act requiring the election of sixteen Peers. By the same act, Peers of *Scotland* are to be tried as *English* Peers are, for treason or felony.

16 Geo. II. An act to explain and amend the laws touching elections for *Scotland*, and to restrain the partiality, and regulate the conduct, of returning officers.

*Scots Customs and Privileges in Statu quo.*

Royal burghs.] Their rights and privileges to remain entire.

Regalia and records] Of *Scotland* to remain there.

Alterations in *Scots Customs*, &c.

Great seal.] Only one to be made for the united kingdom, different from the great seal used in either. Another seal for *Scotland* to be used in matters of private right.

Privy council.] By 6 A. cap. 6. After the first of May 1708, there shall be but one privy council for the united kingdom.

Exchequer.] 6 A. cap. 26. An act for erecting a court of Exchequer in *Scotland*, after the model of that in *England*. Jurors to have 5*l.* per annum, four terms annually for the court of Exchequer. Writs of error there to be returnable in the Parliament of *Great Britain*.

Malt act.] 11 Geo. I. cap. 8. The duties on malt in *Scotland*, settled 3*d.* the bushel; being half the duty paid in *England*.

Church government, Toleration, &c.

The presbyterian church-government to remain established in *Scotland*. The church of *England* to remain established in *England*.

10 A. cap. 7. It shall be lawful for those of the episcopal communication in *Scotland* to assemble for divine worship to be performed by pastors ordained by Protestant bishops, without disturbance, except in parish-churches.

Such



## 40 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Such pastors to exhibit their orders at the quarter-fessions of the peace, and the same to be registered, paying one shilling.

Such parsons may baptize and marry, provided the christenings be registered, and banns three times published in the episcopal congregations.

One hundred pounds penalty for disturbing such congregations.

19 *Geo. II.* No pastor or minister of such communion shall officiate, unless they first take the oaths, and pray for the king and royal family by name.

Excommunication.] No pain or forfeiture to be incurred by any person on any excommunication by the church-judicatories in *Scotland*. Ministers to pray for the royal family.

Patrons.] 10 *A. cap. 12.* Patrons of churches, &c. restored to their right of presentation.

Papists and Nonjurors, to register.] 9 *Geo. 1. cap. 24.* An act to oblige Papists and Nonjurors to register their estates in *Scotland*.

10 *Geo. I. cap. 10.* An act to explain the said act, to oblige Papists to register their estates.

### Civil Government.

Sheriffs.] 21 *Geo. II. cap. 19.* Sheriffs-depute, &c. not to be officers to any subject.

28 *Geo. II. cap. 7.* For 15 years, to hold their offices so long as his Majesty shall appoint; afterwards *ad vitam aut culpam*.

Justices of peace.] A sufficient number to be in *Scotland*, who, besides the powers such justices now have there, shall have the same authority as justices of peace in *England*.

Circuit Courts] In *Scotland* to be held but twice a year.

Another, 8 *A. cap. 15.* None obliged to attend Lords of Justiciary in their circuits, but the sheriff, and his officers.

And

And 10 *A. cap.* 23. Another for appointing circuit-courts to be held only in *April* and *May*.

29 *Geo. II. cap.* 43. Of the circuit courts.

Christmas vacation.] 10 *A. cap.* 13. The yule vacance restored.

1 *Geo. I. cap.* 28. An act to take away the yule vacance, or *Christmas* vacation.

3 *Geo. II. cap.* 32. The judges of the court of Session are impowered to adjourn their sessions; so that they may still have a yule vacance, or *Christmas* vacation, if they see fit.

Lords of Session.] 10 *Geo. I. cap.* 19. An act to explain the law concerning the trial and admission of lords of session in *Scotland*.

Oaths.] 6 *A. cap.* 14. An act requiring the abjuration-oath to be taken by all officers in *Scotland*.

Another, 8 *A. cap.* 14. requiring the oaths to be taken by all officers in *Scotland*.

Another, 5 *Geo. I. cap.* 29. To make the former more effectual, and to cause the oaths to be taken by ministers and preachers in *Scotland*.

20 *Geo. II.* An act was made to give relief to persons in *Scotland*, whose title-deeds and writings were destroyed, or carried off, by the rebels in the late rebellion 1745.

20 *Geo. II. cap.* 43. Directions for officers poynding goods.

By 20 *Geo. II. cap.* 51. Heirs of tailzie, &c. are impowered to sell to the crown.

Prisons.] 20 *Geo. II. cap.* 43. Regulations of prisons in *Scotland*.

By 21 *Geo. II. cap.* 19. His majesty's forts are made lawful prisons.

By another act, 20 *Geo. II.* all heretable jurisdictions of justiciary regalities, heretable bailleries, and constabularies, stewartries, sheriffships, and deputy-sheriffships, in the possession of subjects, are taken away

## 42 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

away from the said subjects, and restored to the crown; and provision is made for the more effectual administration of justice in *Scotland*.

Another act was made, 20 *Geo* II. whereby the tenure of wardholding in *Scotland* is taken away, and converted into blanch and feu-holdings, the casualties of single and life-rent. Escheats incurred by horning and denunciation, in civil causes, are also taken away, and vassals are discharged of their attendance at head-courts; and the services of tenants are ascertained, and heirs of tailzie are allowed to sell lands to the crown.

By another act, 21 *Geo* II. cap. 19. the method of taking evidence in writing, in cases not capital, is taken away.

By 21 *Geo* II. cap. 33. the evidence of offenders is admitted in trials for theft of cattle.

### Treason, and other Crimes.

7 *A*. cap. 21. High-treason, and misprision of treason, to be deemed the same in *Scotland* as in *England*; and the crown impowered to grant commissions ofoyer and terminer to try the same in *Scotland*.

Jurors.] Jurors at such trials to have estates at forty shillings *per annum* each.

Treason, indictments, and presentments.] After the decease of the Pretender, and three years after the *Hanover* succession shall take place, no attainder for treason shall disinherit the heir.—And then a copy of the indictment for treason, and a list of the witnesses to prove it, and the names of the jury with these additions, shall be delivered to the party indicted ten days before the trial.

But, by an act 17 *Geo* II. the first mentioned provision is not to take place, till the deaths of the sons of the Pretender.

19 *Geo* II. cap. 25. Suspected persons in *Scotland* may be summoned to appear at *Edinburgh*.

21 *Geo*.

21 *Geo. II. cap. 19.* For trials of high treason, &c. committed in the *Highlands*.

22 *Geo. II. cap. 48.* Directions for proceedings to outlawry for high-treason.

Capital crimes.] Theft of landed men, murder under trust, wilful fire-raising, firing colehughs, and assassination, to be no longer treason in *Scotland*, but capital offences, and punished as such.

Bail.] Enacted, that double bail be taken in criminal cases.

Forfeited estates.] The act relating to the forfeited estates, *anno 1715*, appropriates 20,000*l.* out of the said estates, for making a capital stock for erecting schools in the *Highlands*, after other uses and designments, appointed by the said act, are complied with.

By 25 *Geo. II. cap. 41.* Forfeited estates in *Scotland* are annexed to the crown unalienably. Sect. 14. The rents of forfeited estates in *Scotland* are to be applied to the improving the *Highlands*.

#### Capital and Corporal Punishments.

Not to be executed to the south of the *Firth*, within 30 days after sentence; nor any north of the *Firth*, within less than 40 days after sentence.

Lord lieutenant, &c. empowered by this act to summon the clans to deliver in their arms.

3 *Geo. II. cap. 32.* An act for enabling the judges of the court of session in *Scotland* to adjourn the said court, and to limit the time for the execution of sentences importing corporal punishments in that kingdom.

Farther enacted, that it shall be lawful for the magistrates, and courts of judicature, to put in execution any sentence importing corporal punishment, less than death or dismembering, in any part of *Scotland*, south of the *Firth*, within eight days after it is pronounced; and,

## 44 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

and, to the northward of the *Firth*, within ten days after it is pronounced.

And the judges of the court of justiciary, or any of them are authorised, upon application to them, to delay execution, if they think proper, for 30 days; to the end application may be made for relief against any hard or unjust sentence.

### Trade and Manufactures.

Linen Manufacture.] 10 *A. cap.* 21. An act for regulating the making of linen-cloth.

Another 12 *A. cap.* 20. for regulating the linen manufactures.

And 13 *Geo. I.* An act for regulating the linen and hempen manufactures of *Scotland*, which gives great encouragement to that improving branch.

Woollen manufactories.] 6 *Geo. I. cap.* 13. An act for regulating the woollen manufactories in *Scotland*.

10 *Geo. I. cap.* 13. An act to explain and amend the act for regulating woollen manufactories in *Scotland*.

Fisheries and manufactories.] The annual sum of 2000*l.* to be applied to the encouragement of the fishery, and other manufactories in *Scotland*, the said annuities to be in lieu of all equivalents claimed by *Scotland*.

13 *Geo. I. cap.* 26. An act for encouraging the fisheries, and other manufactories and improvements in *Scotland*; empowering his majesty to settle a plan for improving the same.

Naval stores.] 2 *Geo. II. cap.* 32. An act to encourage the importation of masts, yards, and bowsprits, from *Scotland*.

Highways.] 5 *Geo. I. cap.* 30. An act for making the laws more effectual for repairing highways, bridges, and ferries, in *Scotland*, in the same manner as in *England*.

By an act 15 and 16 *Geo. II.* an additional duty was laid on foreign cambrics for seven years, in order to allow a bounty upon certain species of *British* and *Irish* linens.

By another act 18 *Geo. II.* an additional bounty was allowed on the exportation of the said linens.

## L E T T E R II.

*Containing a DESCRIPTION of the MERSE, the Two LOTHIANS, of EDINBURGH, LEITH, &c.*

I AM just now entered *Scotland* by the ordinary way of *Berwick*, which place I have already sufficiently described in a former letter. The first thing we observed, after we had left *Berwick* about three miles behind us, was the sea on the right-hand, and the river *Tweed*, which fetches a reach northward, on the left. The land between lies so high, that in stormy weather it is very bleak and unpleasant, having little or no shelter: however, the land, compared to what we left in *Northumberland*, or what we soon found farther in *Scotland*, is good.

The first town in *Scotland*, but not directly in the road, is *Mordington*, a poor sorry village; yet gives the title of lord to a branch of the noble family of *Douglas*.

About three miles farther east is a small harbour, with a town called *Aymouth*, where a fort was formerly raised to curb the garrison of *Berwick*. This town gave title of baron to the late duke of *Marlbrough*; but the patent being granted only to him, and the heirs male of his own body, the honour extinguished with

with him. It affords a good harbour for fishing-vessels. In Queen *Elizabeth's* time, the *French* held it, and fortified it, as it was the first port in *Scotland* they could safely land their supplies at, for the queen-mother; but they were obliged to quit that, and the kingdom, some time after, by a treaty, queen *Elizabeth* supporting the reformers against her.

Claret I found here in great plenty, and very cheap, and the best of fish in abundance; but the cookery was as nasty as the women.

From this place we enter upon a most desolate, and, in winter, frightful moor for travellers, especially strangers, called *Coldingham-moor*, upon which, for about eight miles, you hardly see an hedge, or a tree; and I met with but one house all the way, and that not an house of entertainment.

*Coldingham*, whence this moor derives its name, was an old monastery, built by *Edgar*, king of *Scotland*, about the year 1100, and famous for its lady abbess *Ebba*, of whom they tell us the following story.

This lady was the daughter of *Edelfred*, king of *Northumberland*; and, when her father was taken prisoner by the pagan *Mercians*, she got into a boat in the *Humber*, with three other women, who, by their own prayers only, were miraculously preserved, and carried as far as *Scotland*, where, under a promontory, they were driven on shore by a storm, and their boat dashed in pieces.

When they got ashore, they laboured with their hands, and made themselves a little hut to lodge in; they continued their religious way of living, and the country-people sustained them with food; till at length, acquiring a great character by their sanctity and austerity, they were addressed to, far and near, for their prayers; and, by the charity of the people, got enough to build a religious house at *Coldingham*. Here



Here, as fame says, when the cruel *Danes* came on shore, the religious lady, (who, it seems, was very beautiful too) cut off her nose and upper-lip, and made all her nuns do the same, in order to preserve their chastity. Whereupon the barbarous *Danes*, enraged at their zeal, fired their nunnery, and burnt them all alive. From this lady, who, it is said, was fainted for these sufferings, the promontory, where she landed, is to this day called *St. Ebbe's-head*, and vulgarly, by our sailors, *St. Tabbe's*. There was once, upon the point of this promontory, a strong fort, called *Foist-castle*, belonging to the earl of *Hume*; but it has been some time demolished.

A little to the north-west is the town and castle of *Duns*, remarkable for the birth of *John Duns*, commonly called *Duns Scotus*, anno 1274; some of whose family where then in being there. *Duns Scotus* was a friar minor, and the greatest scholar of his age. *Sic-liger* says, there was nothing his genius was not capable of. But his chief study was in points more nice than necessary, whereupon he was called *Doctor Subtilis*. His followers, called *Scotists*, were great opposers of the *Thomists*, another set of scholastics, so named from *Thomas Aquinas*. He studied at *Oxford* and *Paris*, and died of an apoplexy at *Cologne*. After *Berwick* was taken by the *English*, the sheriff-court was kept here, which was but lately removed to a market-town, called *Greenlaw*; which is also a royal burgh, and the principal in the shire, belonging to the earl of *Marchmont*, who has a handsome seat, called *Marchmont House*, in the neighbourhood; which may be seen from the new road, which passes through this town, and crosses the *Tweed* at *Coldstream Bridge*.

*Duns* was also remarkable for the encampment of the *Scottish* army, under general *Lefly*, assembled to oppose king *Charles I.* when he came to the *English* borders with an army, to persuade that kingdom to obedience

obedience. It has the best weekly market for cattle in *Scotland*, and is a place of the best trade in this county.

*Coldstream* is a market-town, in this county of *Merse*, where was anciently an abbey. In the year 1763, an act passed for repairing and widening the road from *Deanburn-bridge*, through *Greenlow* and part of the *Jedburgh* road, by *Lauder*, in the shire of *Berwick*, to *Cornhill* in the county of *Durham*; and for building a bridge over the *Tweed*, near *Coldstream*.

In consequence of this act a fine bridge is now built over the *Tweed*, consisting of five large arches, for the passage of the river in common; with two smaller (one at each end) upon the shores, in order to take off the weight of water which would otherwise lay upon the abutments in the time of floods. This is the most elegant bridge in the North; the piers are small, the arches wide, and it has a raised foot-way on each side, for the greater convenience and safety of passengers.

At a small distance from the town of *Coldstream* is the seat of *Sir John Pringle*, Bart. called the *Lees*. He has lately rebuilt the house, in a very elegant manner. In the front is a handsome pediment, supported by four *Corinthian* pillars: the whole building is of fine stone, with wings for the offices. It is sheltered from the north winds by plantations, at a little distance; and to the south it commands a delightful view of the river, and the elegant new bridge above mentioned. At the west end of the lawn, (which is interspersed with small plantations of shrubs, &c.) is an open octagon temple, the dome supported by *Ionic* pillars, which commands a charming view of the *Tweed*, and country adjacent. *Sir John* has a great taste for agriculture, and has, in consequence thereof, introduced several advantageous improvements into the neighbourhood.

*Eccles*

*Eccles* also is a market-town : and *Erfilton* is noted for the birth-place of the rhyming poet *Learmont*, so much admired by the vulgar *Scots*, under the name of *Thomas the Rhymmer*. *Hume* was formerly the residence of the earls of that name, which they derived from the town ; and they had a strong castle there, now demolished. The present seat of this family is at *Hirsel*, about two miles from *Coldstream*. The house is old ; but it has lately been repaired, and received some additions. It is surrounded with plantations of firs, which come up to the road-side.

Many of the ancient *Scottish* gentry and nobility derived their names from the places of their residence, as was originally the custom in *England*, and other countries. Thus the *Dunbars*, *Humes*, &c. were originally the same ; but tradition, or rather the armorial bearings of the several families, distinguished their lineage. This hint may serve, once for all, to those families called of that *ilk* ; i. e. whose surname and paternal estate are the same, and are generally esteemed ancient and honourable.

At the end of the moor, the *Firth of Forth* instantly caught our sight ; and here we had an extensive prospect of that great arm of the sea, of the rich country of *East-Lothian*, the *Bass-Ile*, and at a distance the *Ile of May*, the coast of the county of *Fife*, and the country as far as *Montrose*.

After going down a long descent, we dined at *Old Cambus*, at a mean house in a poor village, where, I believe, the lord of the soil is often execrated by the weary traveller, for not enabling the tenant to furnish more comfortable accommodations, in so considerable a thoroughfare.

The country becomes now extremely fine, being bounded at a distance on one side by hills, and on the other by the sea. The intervening space is a rich track of corn-land : indeed, *East-Lothian* is consider-

ed as the *Northamptonshire* of *North Britain*. The land is in many places manured with sea tang; but I was informed, that the barley produced from it is much lighter than that from other manures.

The next town of note is *Dunbar*, a royal burgh, which, in *Scotland*, is much the same with what we call a corporation in *England*, and sends members to Parliament in like manner; only, in *Scotland*, these burghs have some particular privileges separate to themselves; as that, for example, of holding a sort of Parliament, called a Convention of Burghs, a method taken from the union of the *Hans* towns in the North, in which they meet and concert measures for the public good of the towns, and of their trade, and make by-laws, or acts and declarations, which bind the whole body; nor have they lost this privilege by the Union with *England*, it being preserved entire, and is now many ways more advantageous to them than it was before, as their trade is now more considerable.

This town of *Dunbar* is an handsome, well-built town, situated in the mouth of the river *Forth*, on the south side towards the *German Ocean*. The houses, as in most of the principal towns, are all built with stone, and covered with slate. It hath been fenced in with a strong stone wall; but that is now decayed. On the opposite side of the haven appear the ruins of a castle, almost covered with the sea at flood-tide, which formerly was remarkably strong, and was the seat of the earls of *March*, afterwards stiled earls of *Dunbar*; a fortress often won by the *English*, and as often recovered by the *Scots*; but demolished in the year 1656, by order of the commonwealth, to prevent its being a retreat for the royalists.

*Dunbar* is a very considerable port, and of great advantage to all ships in the river, in case of stress of weather; but yet its entrance was so difficult by steep rocks, in the mouth of the harbour, that the corporation

tion had exhausted itself by endeavouring to cut through them; and, being unable to proceed farther in it, and, at the same time, the town-house and school of the town being run to decay, and the town itself destitute of fresh water; to answer all these good purposes, they procured an act to pass, in the year 1718, intituled, An Act for laying a Duty of Two Pennies Scots, or One-sixth Part of a Penny, upon every Pint of Ale or Beer that shall be sold within the Town of *Dunbar*, for improving and preserving the Harbour, and repairing the Town-house, and building a School, and other public Buildings there; and for supplying the said Town with fresh Water.

This duty has been of great service to the town, and has enabled them to make a great progress in the intended improvements: but the principal works, which were to dig up part of the rock at the bottom of the harbour, to carry out the great pier to the rock called the *Beacon Rock*, to cut the slope of the island down to a perpendicular, and to supply the town with fresh water, remaining undone; and the act expiring in the year 1738, the same was continued for 25 years longer, by an act passed 10 *Geo. II.*

Between the harbour and the castle is a very surprising stratum of stone, in some respects resembling that of the *Giant's Causeway* in *Ireland*. It consists of great columns of a red grit stone, either triangular, quadrangular, pentangular, or hexangular. Their diameters from one to two feet, their length at low water thirty, dipping or inclining a little to the south. They are jointed, but not so regularly or so plainly, as those which form the *Giant's Causeway*. The surface of several that had been torn off appear as a pavement of numbers of convex ends, probably answering to the concave bottoms of their joints once incumbent on them. The space between the columns was filled with thin septa of red and white sparry matter,

and veins of the same pervaded the columns transversely. This range of columns faces the north, with a point to the east, and extends in front about two hundred yards: the breadth is inconsiderable. The rest of the rock degenerates into shapeless masses of the same sort of stone irregularly divided by thin septa. The rock is called by the people of *Dunbar*, the *Isle*.

They had here a great herring-fishery, which has decayed very much of late years; and they cure herrings here, as they do at *Yarmouth* in *Norfolk*, though I cannot say they cure them so well, nor are they so fit for keeping and sending on long voyages. The herrings themselves may indeed make a little difference, being generally larger, and fatter than those of *Yarmouth*; which makes it more difficult to cure them so as to keep in an hot climate, and on a long voyage. Some public-spirited persons have set up whale-fishing here, with success. This place, if the port was once improved as far as it is capable, so as to receive more ships, and those of larger burthen, and that allowance to maintain those improvements which they now enjoy continued for a farther term, would, from the convenience of its situation, and the industrious temper of the people in the country about it, become, in all probability, much more considerable than we now find it. Here was formerly a strong castle, which was demolished by act of Parliament during the minority of king *James VI*.

Between the town and the great road stands a pleasant and agreeable seat of the duke of *Roxburgh*, called *Broxmouth*. It consists of a body and two wings, and a fine paved court between the wings, with a good avenue coming up to it, and a spacious parterre, adorned with statues, behind it; the whole in the middle of a fine park, prodigiously planted with trees in great thickets between it and the sea; for the gentlemen

tiemen of *Scotland* are now set upon planting forest-trees, as well for ornament as profit.

A little farther is the castle of *Tenningham*, a noble old seat of the earls of *Haddington*, of late years greatly improved. Many thousands of trees are planted in a sandy down, or links, as they call them here, between the house and the sea, which are come to such perfection, that the present earl will be able to cut down great quantities every year for sale, to the no small addition to his estate; and this too, from lands that were formerly of little or no value.

On the south-west side of *Dunbar*, under the mountains, near a place called *Dun-hill*, is the field where the battle was fought between *Oliver Cromwell* and general *Lesly*, commander of the *Scots* army, where the desperate few, (for *Cromwell's* army was not above 8000 men), defeated and totally overthrew the great army of the other side, killed 6000 of them, and took 10.000 prisoners, to the surprize of the world.

Here we turned out of the way, to see the marquis of *Tweeddale's* fine park at *Yester*, or *Zester*; in the centre of which stands a very noble house, but in a too low situation.

The earl of *Tweeddale*, in the reign of king *Charles II.* having seen the plans of *Greenwich* and *St. James's* parks, was so pleased with them, that, as soon as he went down into *Scotland*, he laid out the plan and design of all those noble walks and forests of trees, which he planted here. A gentleman, whose judgment I can depend upon, told me, that if ever those trees came to be worth but six-pence a-piece, they would be of more value than the fee-simple of the whole paternal estate of the family. Nor is this unlikely, if it be true, that his lordship, and his immediate successor, planted above 6000 acres of land with fir-trees; and wherever any of them failed, they were constantly renewed the next year.



The park itself is said to be eight miles round, and exceeds, in many respects, (particularly as to walling and planting) *Richmond* park in *Surry*: but the plantation of fir is not confined to this estate; for the family has another seat at *Pinkey*, near *Musselburg*, where the same lord planted also a great number of trees, as his successors have likewise done at another seat, which they had in *Fife*, near *Aberdour*, which now belongs to the earl of *Moray*.

As this planting is a great encouragement to the nobility of *Scotland* to improve their estates by the same method, so we find abundance of gentlemen follow the example; insomuch, that you hardly see an house of note, especially in the south parts of this country, but is adorned with groves and walks of fir-trees about it; by which we may reasonably expect, that in a little time *Scotland* will have no need to send to *Norway* for timber and deal, but will have sufficient of her own, and, perhaps, be able to furnish *England* too with considerable quantities.

This noble palace stands about a mile from the park-gate, to which you go by a paved coach-way through a thicket. It is of free-stone, curiously wrought, of 120 feet in front, and 60 feet deep, and on each side of the fore-front are two pavilions or wings. The offices under ground are very noble, and vaulted with paved galleries of communication. You enter the body of the house up six or eight steps into a large hall 36 feet high, and behind it a salon from the garden of the same height; and at top is a gallery for music, which opens into both, exactly as at *Blenheim House*, near *Woodstock*. The rooms of state, which run on each side of this salon fronting the garden, are very stately, and of an exact symmetry; and those from the hall have no communication with the apartments in the two parlours. A mathematical  
stone

stone stair-case leads you up to the the apartments above, ballustrated with iron.

The parterres and garden behind the house are very spacious, rising up by an easy ascent into the park. A handsome bason is in the middle of the parterre, with a *jet d'eau*, with four good statues, one at each corner. There are abundance of ever-greens, and green slopes regularly displayed, and to the west of the garden, on an artificial mount, is a pleasant summer-house. At the upper end of the garden, fronting the salon, are a pair of iron gates, which open into the park. The green-house joins the pavilion to the west, as does a laundry to the east. There is a pretty rapid stream runs by the house, and by its rustling among the trees as it runs through the park, makes the whole very rural. There is a pretty bowling-green by this river side, and the stables, hen-house, and coach-houses, are at a distance in the park, as is the custom in all the great houses I have yet seen in *Scotland*. Every nobleman's house hath what they call the mains, where their land labourers, grooms, and every body belonging to the stable and poultry, reside.

About two little miles from *Yester*, I arrived at *Lethington*, the ancient seat of the *Maitlands* earls of *Lauderdale*. It is an old tower, full of good conveniencies, and one good apartment made by the duke of *Lauderdale* in the reign of *Charles II.* who also inclosed the park with a stone wall. There are some beautiful avenues in this park, and a great deal of planting round the house.

From the town of *Dunbar* to *Edinburgh* the country may be reckoned as fruitful, pleasant, and rich, as any in *Scotland*, or, indeed, as most is *England*. The sea is on the right-hand at a moderate distance, and the hills on the left, farther off, which are habitable, and feed large flocks of sheep, and have many open

roads leading over them from *Edinburgh*, and other parts, towards *England*.

The most material thing this country wants, is more inclosed pastures, by which the farmers would be enabled to keep a sufficient stock of cattle well foddered in the winter; and thereby not only be furnished with store of butter, cheese, and beef, for the market, but likewise, by the dung of the beasts, enrich their soil, according to the unanswerable maxim in grasing, that stock upon land improves land

From *Dunbar* we pass another river *Tyne*, which, to distinguish it from the two *Tynes* in *Northumberland*, I shall call *Scots Tyne*, though not so distinguished here. It rises in the hills above *Yester*, and watering part of a fine and pleasant vale, runs by *Haddington*, a royal burgh, and an old, half ruined town, with the remains of an old nunnery. It was formerly large, handsome, and well-built, and reckoned very strong; for, besides the walls of stone, which were in those times esteemed very good, the *English* fortified it with lines and bastions. Four of which latter were very large, as may be seen by what remains of them to this day. It had also a large ditch, and was so strong, that the *English*, commanded by Sir *George Wilford*, defended it against a great army of *French* and *Scots*, though the garrison was almost all swept away by the plague, till it was relieved from *England*, when they quitted it, after demolishing the fortifications.

They have a good stone bridge here over the *Tyne*, though the river is but small. The church was large, but has suffered in the ruin of the rest, and but part of it is repaired, though large enough for the number of inhabitants. There are in it some monuments remaining of the dukes of *Lauderdale*, and other *Maitlands*, ancient lords of this part of the country; but as the choir of this church is open and defaced, they have suffered with the rest.

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The cross-aisle, and choir of the church, are in ruins ; so that the monuments, though against the insides of the walls, are quite exposed to the weather. The tower, in the middle of the church, is standing, but without any roof to cover it.

Nor far from the church, a neat episcopal chapel was finished, in the summer of 1768.

The town-hall has a turret and clock. There are some good houses here, and the streets are broad and well paved. The post-house is a good inn, not inferior to many in *England*.

In and about this place I saw something of a manufacture, and a face of industry, which was the first I had hitherto seen the least appearance of in *Scotland* ; particularly, here was a woollen manufacture, erected by a company or corporation for making broad-cloth, which they call *English* cloth ; and as they had *English* workmen, and *English* wool, they really made it very good ; but I cannot say they could bring it so cheap to the market, as they do in *England*. This was the reason, that though, before the late Union, the *English* cloth being prohibited upon severe penalties, their own cloth supplied them very well ; yet, as soon as the Union was made, by which the *English* trade was opened, the clothiers from *Worcester*, *Gloucester*, *Wilt*s, *Somerset*, *Devonshire*, and *Yorkshire*, brought in their goods, and, underselling the *Scots*, those manufacturers were not able to stand it \*. However, the people turn their hands to other things, are still employed in spinning, dying, weaving, &c. and carry on a good deal of that sort of business.

On the north side of the mouth of the *Forth* stand the remains of *Tantallon* castle, infamous in the *Scots* history, for being the seat of rebellion in the reign of king *James V.* Hence came the odd fancy among the

\* Within these few years, however, the cloth manufactory has made great progress.

soldiers, that the drums beating the *Scots* march, which was invented by the king's soldiers when they marched against the earl of *Angus*, who held out this castle against him, said, *Ding dong Tantallon*. But it is now no more a fortress, being intirely demolished.

Over against this, in the mouth of the same river, stands a steep rock, called the *Bass*, inaccessible on all sides, except by one narrow passage. It was formerly slightly fortified, rather to prevent its being made a retreat for pirates and thieves, than for any use it could be of to command the sea; for the entrance of the *Forth* is so wide, that ships can go in and out without the least danger of being hurt by any thing that could be offered from the *Bass*.

In the times of the late king *Charles II.* and his brother king *James VII.* it was made a state prison, where the western people, called in those days *Cameronians*, were confined, for being in arms against the king. And after the Revolution a desperate crew of people got possession of it; and having a large boat, which they hoisted up upon the rock, or let down, at pleasure, committed several piracies, took a great many vessels, and held out the last of any place in *Great Britain* for king *James*: but their boat being at last either seized or lost, and not being seasonably supplied with provisions from *France*, as they used to be, they were obliged to surrender.

The *Solan* geese are the principal inhabitants of this island, a fowl rare as to its kind; for they are not found any where in *Britain*, that I can learn, except here, in some of the lesser islands in the *Orcades*, and in the island of *Ailzeye*, in the mouth of the *Clyde*. They come as certainly at their season, as the swallows or woodcocks, with this difference (if what the people there tell us may be depended on), that they generally come exactly to the very same day of the month,

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They feed mostly on herrings; and therefore it is observed, they come just before, or with them, and go away with them likewise, though it is evident, they do not follow them; for they go all away to the North, but whither, is not known. As they live on fish, so their flesh has the taste of fish, which, together with their being so exceeding fat, makes them, in my opinion, a very coarse dish, rank, ill-relished, and soon cloy the stomach. But here they are looked upon as a dainty.

It is a large fowl, rather bigger than an ordinary goose. It is web-footed, but its bill is pointed like a crane or heron, only much thicker, and not above five inches long. When they are coming, they send some before to fix their mansion, which, for that reason, are called scouts. The inhabitants are careful not to disturb them, till they have built their nests, and then they are not to be frightened by any noise, whatsoever. They lay but one egg at a time, which they so dexterously fix by one end to a point of the rock, in the middle of the nest, that if it be pulled off, it is difficult to fix it so any more. They hatch it by holding it fast under one foot, and seldom leave it, till it be hatched. The fish caught by the old ones often serve the inhabitants for food, and the sticks they bring to make their nests supply them with fuel. They make great profit both of the flesh and feathers of their young ones, which are taken from their nests, by one let down the rock with a rope. When young, they are of an ash-colour; but when old, white.

At the top of the rock is a fresh-water spring, with a small warren for rabbits; but the bottom of it is almost worn through by the tide. It was formerly the possession, and sometimes the seat, of the ancient family of *Lauder*, who a long time refused to sell it, though often solicited to it by several kings. King *James VI.* told the then laird, "He would give him  
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whatever he pleased to ask for it ;" whereby that gentleman had a fine opportunity of making a good bargain : but after he had told his majesty, that he would sell it upon these terms, and the king desiring to know what he would ask, he answered, " Your majesty must e'en resign it to me ; for I'll have the ald craig, (*i. e.* rock) back again." However, the family, at last, coming to decay, it was purchased by king *Charles II.*

From hence, keeping the shore of the *Forth*, due west, we find a range of large and populous villages all along the coast, almost as far as *Leith*.

All this part of the country is delightfully spread with the seats of noblemen and gentlemen ; as the duke of *Roxburgh's* near *Dunbar*, the earl of *Haddington's* at *Tinningham*, both already described ; the lord *Bellhaven's*, at *Bellhaven* ; and that of the family of *Sir Hugh Dalrymple*, who have fine seats at the burgh of *North Berwick*, (where is a small, but pretty good market) *Hales*, and in the neighbourhood of this place.

The house and estate of *Dirleton*, now in the family of *Nisbit*, is pleasantly seated in this part of the country ; as are *Clerkington* and *Ormistoun*, thriving little towns, belonging to the family of *Cockburn* ; round which they have an handsome estate, so well planted and improved, that I do not remember to have ever seen a more beautiful spot of ground. They have also a pretty good seat here ; but when I saw it, it was much out of repair.

I must here add the ancient and noble houses of *Seton* and *Winton*, both palaces (for so they deserve to be called), of the late earl of *Winton*, who did so many weak and rash things in the affair of the rebellion in 1715. They are now in a state of ruin, as is the estate on which they stand ; which, for its value, is as fine as any in *Scotland*, laying all contiguous with itself, and valued at almost 5000*l.* sterling *per annum* ; but, all being under forfeiture, it was sold to the

*York-*



*York-Buildings* company. The fine gates, and stone wall, were demolished by the government, after it had been made a garrison by the *Highlanders*. The name *Seton* was given the family from the term *set-on*, which one of the ancestors of it used to the soldiers he commanded, when entering upon an engagement. They were reckoned a very gallant family; and no true *Scotsman* can well omit telling the memorable story, that in the year 1332, when *Edward II.* came before *Berwick*, where *Sir Alexander Seton* was then governor, he summoned him to surrender, and threatened to hang his two sons, whom he had among his hostages, if he delayed. Accordingly a gallows was erected near the town-wall, and the young men were led forth. Tendernefs for his children began to move the governor, when his lady (of the name of *Cheyne*) came and told him, "He and she were both young enough to have more children; but if he surrendered, he could never recover his honour." Upon this, he refused, and the tyrant cruelly murdered the young gentlemen; but the lady was rewarded with two sons afterwards.

The towns upon this coast stand very thick; and there are two or three articles of trade which render them more populous, and more considerable, than they would otherwise be.

1. There are great quantities of white-fish taken and cured all along this coast; and I observed, that they were very well cured, merchantable, and fit for exportation.

2. There is great plenty of coal in the hills, so near the sea, that the carriage is easy, a great deal of which is carried to *Edinburgh*, and other towns thereabouts.

3. They make very good salt at almost all the towns upon the shore; as at *Seton*, *Cockenny*, *Prestonpans*, and several other places. They have a great trade for this salt to *Norway*, *Hamburgh*, *Bremen*, the *Baltic*,

*Baltic*, and even *Holland*; and the number of ships loaded with it here yearly is very considerable.

4. They take great quantities of oysters here also, with which they not only supply the city of *Edinburgh*, but carry abundance of them in large open boats, called cobs, as far as *Newcastle upon Tyne*; from whence the generally bring back glass bottles.

At several of these villages are little moles and harbours, or piers, built up at a considerable expence, for securing the ships that come to load salt, and other goods; as at *North Berwick*, *Aberlady*, *Preston*, *Preston-pans*, (which is also noted for good malt-liquor), *Cockenny*, *Port-seaton*, &c.

Near *Preston-pans*, so called from the salt-pans there, was fought the unhappy battle between the king's forces, under the command of Sir *John Cope*, and the rebels, in *October*, 1745.

We came next to *Musselburgh*, an ancient burgh of regality. In this town are many hands employed in the woollen manufacture, especially in coarse stuffs for the use of the poor; and they have continued many years successfully this branch of trade without any rival.

*Musselburgh* is a pretty little market-town, upon the river *Eske*, over which is a good stone bridge. The main street is broad, and planted with two rows of trees, in some of which are lamps, to be lighted up in the winter season; which give it a genteel appearance; and from the town to the bridge, is a neat walk, planted with trees, and fenced off from the carriage-road.

A little west from this lies *Fisher-row*, so called from a very large row of houses, mostly inhabited by fishermen, who were formerly more numerous here than at present; for the mussel-trade, which was of old reckoned very valuable, is now given over; and their

their chief business, at present, consists in catching cods, haddocks, whittings, and some few shell-fish.

More to the south are two small villages, called *New-bigging*, and *God-speed-all*; but they are so nearly joined to *Musselburgh* and *Fisher-row*, that a stranger would take them to be all one continued town. Nevertheless, they have not had a church since the Reformation, but are only a part of the parish of *Inveresk*, an adjoining village, so called, because it stands at the influx of the river *Eske*, which, though it be sometimes so full of water as to overflow its banks, yet, being rapid, it is not made navigable.

The village of *Inveresk* enjoys so good an air, that the eminent Dr. *Pitcairn* called it the *Montpelier* of Scotland. It is very full of people, and there are several very handsome houses and gardens in it, which invite the citizens of *Edinburgh* to take lodgings here in the summer, as the *Londoners* do at *Kensington-gravel-pits*, *Hampstead*, *Hackney*, and *Highgate*.

But the glory and beauty of this parish is *Pinkey*, which formerly belonged to *Seton*, earl of *Dunfermling*, but now to the marquis of *Tweeddale*, who usually resided here, before his house at *Yester* was finished; which, though it is the most magnificent building, yet is not so agreeably situated as *Pinkey*, which stands near the sea, just as we enter into *Musselburgh*.

In the court before the house is a large stone well, covered with an imperial crown of stone, supported by pillars of the *Ionian* order. The great hall on the right, as you enter, is adorned with views of the great cities of *Italy*; and in a drawing-room adjoining to it, is a billiard-table. The great stair-case on the left is ballustraded with iron, and crowded with pictures.

The first apartment consists of a dining-room, drawing-room, and bed-chamber, all very spacious, curiously wainscotted with oak, and hung with the seasons in tapestry, of the small figures, and best sort :  
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the bed is of crimson velvet, in an alcove, neatly supported with pillars. The chimnies are of marble, and above that of the dining-room is painted the finest inside of a church that is any where to be seen.

The great gallery is very long and spacious, the ceiling whereof is full of *Latin* inscriptions, suitable to the several paintings. Here are, a family picture of the lord *Seton*, with his four sons and daughters, by *Hans Holbein*; Mr. *Henderson*, the Covenanter, by *Vandyke*; the whole length of king *Charles I.* and his Chancellor, the earl of *Dunfermling*, in his robes, by the same hand. The first earl of *Tweeddale*, with his eight sons and seven daughters, all in one picture, as big as the life, takes up almost one end of the room. There are fine altar-pieces, passion-pieces, and others of that kind, which were saved from plunder out of monasteries at the Reformation. Here is likewise a good picture of the earl of *Strafford*, and another of the duke of *Lauderdale* (who married his only child to the heir of his family), with great numbers of family pictures of the *Hays* and *Setons*. There is also well preserved the genealogical tree of the family, from the year 970 to this time; viz, the *Hays*, *Giffords*, and *Frasers*. But most of the pictures have been carried to *Yester*.

The parterre behind the house is very large, and nobly adorned with ever-greens; and on each side of it spacious gardens. The whole stands in a park, which is, however, now greatly reduced in extent; but it was formerly well planted with fir-trees, and walled round with stone.

Near this place was fought a battle by *Edward Seymour*, duke of *Somerfet*, when he came to force the *Scots* into the marriage of their young queen *Mary* with his nephew king *Edward VI.* which was, doubtless, a very coarse way of wooing. Here was a great slaughter of the *Scots*: but though the *English* won the battle, yet

yet they lost their prize; for the young queen was privately embarked, carried to *France*, and afterwards married to the dauphin, who became king *Francis II.*

The *English* call this the battle of *Musselburgh*; but some *Scots* gentlemen riding out with us to shew us the place where the action was begun and ended, we all agreed, that the *Scots* are in the right, who call it the battle of *Pinkey*.

Adjoining to the seat of *Pinkey*, is a grand machine wrought by water, for pumping water out of the coal-mines, of which there are great numbers hereabouts, and almost in every part of *Lothian*. They also make vast quantities of white salt in this shire; and it produces great plenty of lime-stone. In the reign of *James I.* a mine was found in it, out of which they got a great deal of silver.

*Lothian* and *Stirlingshire* lie very commodiously along-side the *Forth* for exporting their coals, called *Scots* coal, to different ports of the kingdom.

I now approached the capital city of *Edinburgh*; but must say a word or two of its situation, before I enter it. Standing then, at a small distance, and taking a view of it from the east, you have really but a very confused idea of the city, because the situation being in length from east to west, and the breadth ill-proportioned to it, you view it under the greatest disadvantage possible; whereas, if you turn a little to the right-hand towards *Leith*, you have a very handsome prospect of it; and from the south you see it to yet more advantage, because it is increased on that side with new streets.

At the extremity of the east-end of the city stands the palace of *Holy-rood-house*; leaving which, a little to the left, you come through a small suburb to the entrance, called the *Water port*. From hence, turning west, the street goes on, in a strait line, through the whole city, to the castle. It is above a mile in length;

length; and is, perhaps, the largest, longest, and finest street, for buildings. and number of inhabitants, in the world.

From the palace-door, which stands on a level with the lowest of the plain country, the street begins to ascend very gradually, being no where steep; but this ascent being continued for so long away, it is easy to imagine, that the farther part must necessarily be very high; for the castle, which stands, as it were, at the extremity, west, as the palace does east, makes, on all the three sides (that only excepted which joins it to the city) a very steep and frightful precipice.

Together with this continued ascent, you are to suppose the edge or top of the ascent so narrow, that the street, and the row of houses on each side, take up the whole breadth; so that, which way soever you turn, you go down hill immediately; which is so steep, that it is very troublesome to those, who have not very good lungs, to walk in those side-lanes, which they call *Wynds*. By this description you will perceive, that the city stands upon the narrow ridge of a long ascending mountain.

On the north-side of the city towards the west-end of it, where the castle stands, was a lough or lake of water, which had a small brook that run through it; so that it could not be said to be quite standing. This *North Lough* is now quite drained, and a most magnificent bridge built over the hollow. This bridge consists of five arches, three very wide and high, elevated upon lofty piers; and on each side one of smaller dimensions\*. The main design of this bridge

\* In 1769, just after it had been opened for the convenience of passengers, one of the abutments unfortunately gave way, by which accident, several people, particularly a very amiable young lady, were buried in the ruins. Had it happened a few minutes sooner, some hundreds would probably have shared the same fate; who, returning from a methodist sermon which had been preached in the neighbourhood, had occasion to pass across this bridge in their way to *Edinburg*. *Ms.*

is, to take off from the very great declivity, which would otherwise be in the intended new road, which is to go this way to *Leith*; for very little water runs under it. On this side they have begun to build, what is to be called the *New Town*. The houses already erected, are airy and handsome, built entirely in the *English* taste; so that each family are to enjoy a whole house to themselves; which neither is, nor ever can be the case, in the *Old Town*. There was formerly another lake on the south-side of it, which, being now filled up, is built into a street, though so much lower than the high street, that, as I said before, the lanes between them are very steep.

The town is so ancient, that no history has recorded when, by whom, or on what occasion, it was built; yet it seems most natural to conclude, that such a situation could not be chosen, but for a retreat from the outrages and attempts of the *Britons*, *Saxons*, *Danes*, or other enemies: for, having an impregnable castle at the west-end, and a lake on either side, the inhabitants had nothing to defend, but the entrance at the east end, which it was easy to fortify.

If this was not the reason for chusing the situation, what should have hindered them from building the city in a pleasant, delightful valley, with the sea flowing up to one side, and a river running through the middle of it, such as that space of ground, between it and the sea, where the town of *Leith* stands? There they would have had a noble, pleasant, and most useful situation, a very fine harbour for their trade, a good road in the *Forth* for their ships of burden; a pleasant river, which, with small art and charge, might have been so drawn round the city, as to have filled its ditches, and made its fortifications almost impregnable, as the *French* did, when they fortified

*Milne*, brother to the celebrated architect of *Black-friars* bridge, planned and executed this bridge.

*Leith.*



*Leith.* Or, had they gone to the south-side of the city, and extended it towards *Libertoun* and *Goodtrees*, they had found a plain large enough to have contained another *London*, watered on the south part with a pleasant brook, capable, by the help of pipes, to have conveyed water into every street and house.

A great part of this convenient space for building a noble city has been made the property of the corporation; and the magistrates for the time being have always refused to suffer any houses to be built upon it, because the old city would then be soon deserted, to the great loss of all the proprietors of the buildings there, many of whom it would totally ruin.

Most of the houses in *Edinburgh* are built of a rough kind of stone, undressed, because of its extreme hardness; but the window-cases and corner-stones are generally well dressed: and so indeed are the whole fronts of many houses, particularly in the *Parliament-cloze*, and some parts of the *High-street*. They are mostly covered (especially the new buildings) with blue slate.

Every stair-case is called a turnpike or house, and the whole building is termed a land, with the addition of some name to distinguish it from another. The families of the best rank, have generally but one floor, some only half a floor, and others less. The gentry take the first, second, or third; the middling and poor mount higher.

The women here are many of them very handsome; generally light-haired, and fair. They are much more industrious than the men, taking laudable pride in having most of what they wear the product of their own hands. They are great admirers of white thread stockings (a fashion the *English* ladies are come into), and scruple not to shew what they are as they walk; nor are the women of either the north or south part of *Britain* half so shy as they used to be in this particular. But this may be said in praise of the *Scottish* women.

men, which cannot of the *English*, that their white stockings are generally their own work. It was indeed a very great rarity to see a *Scottish* woman sit idle; nay, over the tea-table, that expensive time-waster in *England*, they were generally at work, either upon the thread which made them linen or plaids, or else knitting themselves stockings or gloves; which they do to great perfection. But alas! like their sisters of the south, they are now great votaries to pleasure and dissipation.

From the principal street are many wynds, or narrow turnings, and it is not easy for a stranger to find his way to any one of the dwellings, which in these wynds are, as it were, piled one upon another. But there is in *Edinburgh* a very useful kind of porters, called cawdys, who attend at taverns, coffee-houses, and other public places, to go on errands, and know every body of any note in the town. These boys, though they are in rags, and lie every night upon the stairs, or in the streets, are yet considerably trusted, and have seldom proved unfaithful\*. They are subject to a kind of captain or magistrate, called the constable of the cawdies, who punishes any neglect or misdemeanor generally by fine of ale or brandy, but sometimes corporally. Most of them are uncommonly acute, and execute whatever employment is assigned them with great speed and address.

Having thus considered the city in its outward appearance, and in its situation, I must next look into its inside, where we shall find it (notwithstanding all its disadvantages) a large, populous, rich, and even royal city.

\* For the trifling consideration of a penny, a cawdie is obliged to carry a letter or message to the remotest part of *Edinburgh*. It is at the *Cross*, and in the neighbourhood of the *Exchange* and *Parliament-house*, where they commonly ply.

From

From the palace-gate westward, the street is called the *Canongate*, where the canons of the abbey formerly resided; which is a kind of suburb by itself, as *Southwark* is to *London*. In this part of the street, though otherwise not so well inhabited as the city itself, are several very magnificent houses of the nobility, built for their town-residence, when the court was here. Of these the duke of *Queensberry's*, the marquis of *Lothian's*, and the earl of *Murray's*, are the chief: the first and last are very large and princely buildings, all of free-stone, large in front, and have good gardens behind them.

At the upper or west-end of this street, where it joins to the city, is a gate, which parts the city from the suburb, but does not discontinue the street, which widens, and is more spacious, when you are through the gate, than before. This is the famous *Nether-bow Port*, whose doors were like to have been taken away by the Parliament, when the affair of captain *Prentiss* was under their consideration. Though the opposition of the *Scots* in general to the proposal of taking away the doors of this gate was so great as to prevent that measure being then adopted by Parliament, yet they have since, (about the year 1766) of their own accord, taken down the whole gateway, and thereby laid the *Canon-gate* and *High-street* entirely open to each other. For while the *Nether-bow Port* was standing, the passage through it was so narrow, as frequently to occasion a stoppage of carriages.

Just at this gate, on the outside, are two streets, one of which is called *St. Mary Wynd*, and the other *Leith Wynd*: the first leads out of the city, south, into the great road for *England*, by the way of *Kelso*, and at the foot of it is a gate turning westward into the low street, called the *Cowgate*, because the cattle are often driven through it to and from the great market-place: the other leads north into a suburb called

the *Calton*; from whence there is a very handsome gravel-walk, twenty feet broad, continued to the town of *Leith*, which is kept in good repair at the public charge, and no horses suffered to come upon it.

It must not be expected I should describe all the buildings of the city; I shall therefore touch upon some few and go on. The first of any note is a fine house, on the south-side of the street, a little within the gate, belonging to the marquis of *Tweeddale*, with a plantation of lime-trees behind it, the place not allowing room for a large garden: adjoining to this are very good buildings, which, if set out in handsome streets, would adorn a noble city; but being crowded together in narrow wynds and alleys, deserve no notice.

A little farther, on the same side, is the *Trone* kirk; and near it, in the middle of the street, stands the guard-house, where two companies of disciplined men, clothed and armed like grenadiers, at the charge of the town, do duty every night, and keep the public peace of the city. Almost opposite to this church is the street or opening from the bridge, which connects the old city and the new, in the same manner as *London* bridge connects *London* with *Southwark*.

About mid-way between the *Nether-bow* and the castle, is the great church, which, before the Reformation, was collegiate, and dedicated to *St. Giles*; but it was afterwards divided into several preaching-places, and districts of the city were allotted to them, so as to be parochial. When king *Charles I.* erected a new bishopric at *Edinburgh*, which before that time was in the diocese of *St. Andrew's*, it was made a cathedral, and the dean was forenoon minister of that part of it called the *New Kirk* which is the choir, chancel, or eastern part. In it is a gallery for the king, or his commissioner. Here also the magistrates assemble, and the judges in their habits, in time of session.

sion. In a large chapel, on the south-west part of this church, the general assembly hold their sessions, as does also the commission of the assembly, in the interval between the general meetings.

The great cross under the tower is called the *Old Kirk*; and the front or west-part of the great church is divided into two parts: that on the south is called the *Talbooth Kirk*, and that on the north *Haddo's Hole*, from the laird of *Haddo*, who, being a great royalist, and anti-covenanter, was kept prisoner in a vault there, till he was beheaded.

The steeple in the middle is but low, though of good architecture; the summit of it resembles an imperial crown. Here they have a set of bells, which are not rung out as in *England* for that way of ringing is not known in this country), but are played upon by the hand with keys, like an harpsichord, the person playing having great leather covers to his fists, by which he is able to strike with the more force. They play all manner of tunes very musically, and the town gives a man a yearly salary for playing upon them from one to two every day, *Sundays* and holidays excepted.

On the south-side of this church (formerly the church-yard) is a square of very fine buildings, called the *Parliament-close*, the west and south-sides of which are mostly taken up with the parliament-house, the several courts of justice, the council chamber, the exchequer, the public registers, the court for the royal boroughs to assemble in, the lawyers library, the post-office, &c. The great church makes up the north-side of the square, and the east and part of the south-side is built in private dwellings, very stately, lofty, and strong, being seven stories high to the front of the square; and the hill they stand on having a very steep descent, some of them are no less than fourteen stories high backwards. In the middle of this square

is an equestrian statue of king *Charles II.* which is reckoned one of the finest in *Europe.*

The Parliament-house is a stately, convenient, and large structure. Over its entrance are the arms of *Scotland* well cut, with *Mercy* and *Truth* on each side for supporters; and this inscription, *stant his felicia regna*; importing that these virtues make kingdoms happy. And under the arms was this motto *unio unio*; relating not only to the union of the two crowns, but signifying that their advice was necessary to the maintenance of it. The room for the meeting of the Parliament had, on that occasion, an high throne for the sovereign, or the commissioner, with benches on each side for the nobility and bishops, and forms conveniently placed in the middle, for the commoners. Without the area, was a pulpit for sermons to the Parliament on particular occasions; and behind the pulpit a large partition for others, besides the members, to hear the sermons, and debates of the house, when they thought fit to allow it. This building, in some measure, resembles *Westminster-hall*, and, though not quite so large, has a much more curious roof. In the south or upper end of the hall, one of the ordinary judges sits every day in session time, to hear causes in the first instance. At the west-end of it are kept the sheriff and commissary courts. Near the north-end is the town council-house, or *Guild-hall*, and over it is the justiciary or criminal court. At the south-east part of the Parliament-house, is a door from what they call the outer-house (where the lord ordinary sits) into the inner, where sit the other 14 judges, or lords of session; which is the supreme civil judicature of *Scotland*; over which are apartments for the lords of Exchequer.

In *May 1752*, a fine marble statue of *Duncan Forbes, Esq.* late lord president of the court of Session, was set up in the outer Parliament-house. His great

merits, loyalty, and abilities, are too well known, to need encomiums here. He is represented sitting in his robes, papers in his left-hand, leaning upon the chair, the other extended. The following inscription is placed below it in gilt letters :

DUNCANO FORBES DE CULLODEN,  
SUPREMÆ IN CIVILIBUS CURIÆ PRÆFECTI,  
JUDICII INTEGERRIMO,  
CIVI OPTIMO,  
PRISCÆ VIRTUTIS VIRO,  
FACULTAS JURIDICA LIBENS POSUIT,  
ANNO POST OBITVM QVINTO.  
C. N. M, DCC, LII.

*Thus Englished.*

To *Duncan Forbes* of *Culloden*, president of the supreme Civil Court, a most upright judge, a most valuable citizen, a man of unblemished virtue, the faculty of advocates with pleasure erected this monument, in the fifth year after his decease, *A. D.* 1752.

In the lower part, under the Parliament-house, is a noble library of books and MSS. belonging to the college of Justice, or gentlemen of the law.

The great opening into the *High-street* being the only passage into it for coaches, is at the north-east corner, through a narrow street called the *Lucken-booths*; a little from which was the market-cross, where all their proclamations and public acts are read and published by heralds, and sound of trumpet. The cross is now taken entirely away, but the place where it stood is still distinguishable from the rest of the street, by being paved in a different manner. Here is the great parade, where gentlemen meet for business or news, just before the *Exchange*, every day from eleven to one.

The



The *Royal Exchange* is a handsome building, lately erected, forming a large square, and intended for the merchants to assemble in; but they still continue to meet, at 'change hours, in the open street, directly before the *Exchange*, where the cross formerly stood. From a grand stair-case, in the back part of the *Exchange*, is a fine view of the *New Town*, *Leith*, the *Forth*, and ships in the road; and, upon a clear day, the coast of *Fife* is full in sight.

Near the west-end of the great church stands the *Tolbooth*, or common prison, as well for criminals as for debtors. It was formerly the place of residence for the provost of *St. Giles's*, as most of the adjacent houses were for the canons and choiristers of that church.

Opposite to the great church, and in the middle of the street, stands a row of houses and shops, called the *Luckenbooths*, which interrupt the beauty of this place; but those buildings past, the street opens again to its former breadth, and is now called the *Lawn-market*, from the *Linen market* being kept there. This part of the street extends west to a narrower one, which leads to the *Castle-hill*. At the upper end of it is a stone building appropriated to several public offices of lesser value, called the *Weigh-house*; for below stairs are warehouses, with public weights and scales for weighing heavy goods.

Here the street parts into two, one of which leads to the *Castle-hill*, as already noticed; and the other turns south-west, and, descending gradually, leads to the *Grass-market*, a place very like *Smithfield* in every respect, where is kept a weekly market for black cattle, sheep, horses, &c. This street, which is called the *West-bow*, is inhabited mostly by wholesale dealers in iron, pitch, tar, oil, hemp, flax, linseed, drugs, woads, and such-like heavy goods. On the

*Castle-hill* is a curious and useful building, being a reservoir of water, of great use to the city.

This city hath seven gates, or ports, as they are here called, viz.

1. The *Nether-bow Port*: this is the chief gate; it was magnificently built in 1606, and adorned with towers on both sides, and a fine spire on the top. This is the entrance from the palace, and the principal suburb called the *Canon-gate*. (Entirely taken down, 1768.)

2. The *Cow-gate Port*, at the east-end, likewise gives entrance to the street of that name, leading to the abbey by a back way.

3. The *Potter-row Port*, gives entrance to the suburb so called, and leads to *Dalkeith, Kelfo, &c.*

4. The *Society Port*, so called from the society of brewers, who had a great square court near it, now built into a handsome square, after the *English* manner.

5. The *West Port*, the only gate at the west-end of the city, which leads through a large suburb to *Glasgow, Stirling, Queen's-ferry*, and from thence to the west and north *Highlands*.

6. The *New Port*, at the east-end of the lake, leading northward towards a village called *Mouster's hill* and *Leith*.

7. The *College-kirk Port*, leading also to *Leith*.

The markets here are very well supplied with all the necessaries of life, and are mostly kept in distinct market places walled in, and reserved for the particular things they are appointed for; such as,

1. The meal-market.

2. The flesh market.

3. The poultry market.

4. The fish market.

5. The corn market.

6. The leather market.

Besides these, is a weekly market for all sorts of woollen manufactures, and linen, kept in that part of the *High-street*, called the *Lawn-market*, just now mentioned.

mentioned. In the same street, below the cross, is an herb and fruit market kept every morning, which abates before noon, so that it is no incumbrance. The market for black cattle, sheep, horses, and grafs, is kept in that large space of ground within the *West Port*, called the *Grass-market*.

On the south-side of the city, towards the east end, stands a large building, erected at the charge of the surgeons and apothecaries of this city, in which is their great hall, hung round with the pictures of all the eminent surgeons of this place, that have flourished since this building was founded. Here they have also a theatre for dissections, and a chamber of rarities, in which are several skeletons of uncommon creatures, a mummy, and many other curiosities.

Near the *Potter-row Port* stands the college, or university. It consists of three courts, two lower, and one higher, equal to the other two. These courts are encompassed with buildings for the use of such students as please to lodge in them; for they do not live in common, nor are they obliged to reside, but only to attend their classes at certain hours. There is an high tower over the great gate, looking to the city.

The public schools are large and commodious: there are accommodations for students, handsome dwellings for the professors, and fine gardens for their recreation. It was founded in 1580, by king *James VI.* upon a petition from the city to grant them a charter with the privilege of an university; but the foundation was not perfected till 1582. The persons established by the foundation were, a principal or primate, a professor of divinity, four regents, or masters of philosophy, and a professor of philology, called *prof. humaniorum literarum*, or regent of humanity. In 1640, the town added a professor of mathematics: to which have been lately added professors of ecclesi-

astical history, civil law, theoretical and practical medicine, chemistry, rhetoric, and the belles lettres. The dignity of chancellor and vice-chancellor of the university is in the lord provost and town-council.

They have a good library, which was founded by *Clement Little*, one of the commissaries of *Edinburgh*; since which it is much increased by donations from the citizens, persons of quality, and others, who had their education there. The library is neatly kept, well furnished with books put in very good order, cloistered with wire doors, which none but the keeper can open, which is more commodious, and less encumbering, than multitudes of chains, used in many other libraries. The books given by the grand benefactors are kept in distinct apartments, and the donor's name over them in letters of gold.

Over the books hang the pictures of several princes, and of the most eminent reformers at home and abroad; and near them is kept the skull of the famous *Buchanan*, very entire, and so thin, that the light may be seen through it. It was deposited there by *Mr. Adamson*, formerly principal of the university, who procured it to be taken out of his grave, and fastened some Latin verses to it in his commendation. The original of the *Bohemian* protest against the council of *Constance*, for burning *John Hus* and *Jerome of Prague*, anno 1417, is there, with 105 seals of *Bohemian* and *Moravian* grandees annexed to it. It was procured by a *Scots* gentleman in his travels, and given to the university.

At the farther end of the library is a stair-case, which leads to the higher and lower common halls, where they hold their commencements and college-entertainments. In this place are several maps, globes, books, and rarities; and, among others, a crooked horn, cut out of a woman's head when 50 years old, and who lived 12 years after it. It is several inches long

long, and was taken out of her head by a surgeon, anno 1671. Here also are lectures read, exercises performed, and apartments for the professor of divinity to teach his pupils in, and for a select library proper for divines.

In this higher common hall, which is a very spacious room, are placed such books as have been bought by, or given to the college, since the library below was full; and in the south-end of it is a curious and noble museum, collected by the very eminent Sir *Andrew Balfour*. It contains a vast treasure of curiosities of art and nature, domestic and foreign, from almost all parts of the world; and is greatly valued by the virtuosi, containing some rarities that are not to be found, either in those of the Royal Society at *London*, or the *Ashmolean* at *Oxford*. Sir *Robert Sibbald*, having a mind to engraft his name and merit on that of the celebrated *Balfour*, made a present of a great number of shells and other curiosities, to the college, on condition the magistrates would print the account of it, called *Auctarium Musei Balfouriani e Museo Sibbaldiano*; to which I refer the reader.

Eastward from the college is the high-school, well endowed, and with proper apartments for one master and four ushers, who teach youth grammar and rhetoric.

In *Gray's-close*, near the *Cowgate Port*, is the mint-house, in a large court, with neat and convenient buildings, and other accommodations for the master, officers, and workmen. It is now disused for that purpose, but is a sanctuary, or place of privilege.

At a small distance from the college are two neat hospitals, with pretty gardens to each of them; and a little farther is the church yard of the *Franciscans*, or *Grey-friars*, the common burial-place for the whole city within the walls, where are a great many curious monuments. It contains about two acres of ground.

Adjoining to it is *Heriot's Hospital*, a large and stately building, the most magnificent of its kind in the world, adorned with a consecrated chapel, large walks, delightful greens, and pleasant gardens. It was built by the reverend Dr. *Balcanqual*, to whom *George Heriot*, jeweller to king *James VI.* left near 17,000*l.* to be disposed of in pious uses, which that worthy dean of *Rochester* did, by building and endowing this house, and giving statutes to it, which he ordered should be unalterable. It is a nursery for an indefinite number of the sons of freemen, who are maintained, cloathed, and educated in useful learning, till they are fit for apprenticeship, or to go to the university, where they are allowed handsome salaries and exhibitions.

On the other side of the *Grey-friars* church-yard stands the charity workhouse for the city, where old and infirm persons are cloathed and maintained, and foundling and deserted children are taken care of, put to nurse, and educated till they are fit to go to service, or put apprentice, &c. The number of old and young who are maintained by this noble charity are computed to be upwards of 500.

On the north side of the city, in the way to *Leith*, is a beautiful collegiate church, built by queen *Mary of Guelders*, queen to king *James II.* of *Scotland*, and dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, but now parochial, though nothing but the church part was ever finished. It is now called the *College-kirk*.

Near it is *St. Thomas's Hospital*, wherein old decayed citizens and their widows are very decently provided for, and allowed a chaplain.

Over-against it is *Bridewell*, or the house of correction, in which dissolute people undergo discipline, and are kept to hard labour. There is an apartment in it for lunatic and distracted persons.

Of

Of late years, Mr. *Hare* left a noble benefaction for a new hospital for female orphans of decayed freemen, which created a laudable emulation in many others, whose united contributions have raised another for the same good purpose.

An infirmary, called the *Royal Infirmary*, after the example of those in *London*, *Winchester*, &c. is erected at *Edinburgh*, by the liberal contribution of many well-disposed persons. It is a noble building, consisting of a main body and two wings: in the front is a handsome pediment, supported by six pillars: over the entrance is a statue of king *George II.* The building is four stories high; the wards large, and well accommodated for the reception of patients. The operation-room is excellently well adapted for the purpose of letting a great many persons see the operations there performed. The light is admitted from the top, by a large skylight; and ranges of seats are elevated pretty high above each other, for the more conveniently seeing the operations. On the top of the building is a dome, from whence you have a fine view of the city of *Edinburgh* and the neighbouring country. There was so general a good-will to the work, that the like spirit had hardly ever been known any where. The proprietors of several stone quarries made presents of stone to it; others of lime; merchants contributed timber; the wrights and masons were not wanting in their contributions; the neighbouring farmers agreed to carry materials *gratis*; the journeymen masons contributed their labour for a certain quantity of hewn stones; and, as this undertaking is for the relief of the diseased, lame, and maimed poor, even the day-labourers would not be exempted, but conditioned to work a day in a month *gratis* to the erection. The ladies too contributed in their own way to it; for they appointed an assembly for the benefit of the work; and, it being well attended, every one contributed



bountifully to it. It has met with no small encouragement from the nobility and gentry; and his Majesty was pleased to give 100*l.* towards it: so that it is really a noble work.

The physicians were incorporated in 1682 by king *Charles II.* and have their college near the *Nether-bow* in the *Fountain-clofe*. They are deservedly esteemed learned and able, and do not give place to the physicians of any country.

On the north-side of the city, in the way to *Leith*, is a neat phyfic-garden, containing some thousands of exotic plants and simples. The botanical student owes this admirable *hortus* to the munificence of lord *Bute*, and the almost enthusiastic zeal of the industrious Dr. *Hope*, the ingenious professor.

Buildings for pleasure, as well as profit, are not wanting in *Edinburgh*. A theatre is built at the end of the new bridge in the *New Town*, which was raised by the subscriptions of a certain number of gentlemen, who let it originally to a manager for four hundred pounds a year. Mr. *Ross* was the first person who took it, and his name was inserted in the patent, which made him manager as long as he chose. A few years ago, plays were not in that repute at *Edinburgh* they now are. The ministers, zealous for the good of their flock, preached against them, and the poor players were entirely routed: they have now, however, once more taken the field, and the clergy leave them to their own ungodliness. During these contests, Mr. *Ross* found, that the benefits of the theatre did not answer the expences of it, and retreated in good time.

Our late modern *Aristophanes*, who imagined he had wit enough to laugh the *Scotch* out of their money, took it of Mr. *Ross*, at the same price that was originally paid for it. He brought on all his own comedies successively; but, as most of the humour was  
local

local and particular, few people understood it. Now and then, indeed, a very civil gentleman was so kind as to explain what he had been told in *London* such a joke alluded to; but, as jokes always lose their strength in travelling, nobody was the wiser for the explanation. But when, in the course of acting, Mr. *Foot*e attempted to introduce the *Minor* upon the stage, the ministers who had long lain dormant, now rose up in arms. The character of Mrs. *Cole* gave them offence. The *Scotch* clergy, not contented with damning the play itself, very piously pronounced all those damned who went to see it. Parties, however, rose on this occasion, and many were so wicked as to insist on its being performed. Riots ensued, the unrighteous triumphed, and the poor play was performed.

Mr. *Foot*e, however, found, that to gain half the town was not sufficient, the whole of it being necessary for his business; and therefore, when he perceived he could not bring them into good humour, it was his interest to retire. However, on leaving *Edinburgh*, he made the best of a bad bargain, and raised the rent to five hundred pounds a year, for which sum he let it to Mr. *Diggs*, the present manager.

The proprietors now saw the mistake they had been guilty of, in leaving it in the power of Mr. *Ross* to let it out to other people, and thus, in some measure, to deprive them of their own property. If any advantageous encrease of rent could have been made, they thought themselves the only persons who were entitled to it; but of this they had deprived themselves, and put the house on a worse footing than it was at the first; for, if four hundred pounds had already been found too large a rent, five hundred must be still more distressing, and prevent the manager from bringing good actors to entertain the town. However, under all these disadvantages, Mr. *Diggs* took the playhouse. Some little juvenile extravagances,

gances, more than any natural turn for the stage, induced Mr. *Digges* to quit the military profession, to which he was bred, and become an actor. Driven from the first line, he took the second; and, as he could not, at that time, gain admittance to the *London* theatres, he became manager at *Edinburgh*. He has indeed done every thing which good management could do; but, it is to be feared, not greatly to his own advantage.

The theatre is of an oblong form, and designed after the manner of the foreign ones. I do not know its exact dimensions; but at three shillings (which is the price of admittance into the pit and boxes) it is capable of containing about one hundred and thirty pounds. The pit seems considered here as the *parterre*, in the *French* theatre, into which gentlemen go who are not sufficiently dressed for the boxes. On very crowded nights, the ladies sometimes sit here, and then that part is divided by a partition. The ornaments are few, and in an unaffected plain style, which, on the whole, has a very elegant appearance. It is lighted with wax, and the scenery is well painted, though they do not excel in those *jeux de theatre*, which please and astonish the common people in *London*. The whole of their machinery is luckily very bad; and therefore, much to the credit of their understandings, they have seldom any *Harlequin* entertainments.

The upper galleries, or, as they obligingly term them in *London*, the Gods, seem here very compassionate divinities. You sometimes hear the murmurings of displeasure at a distance, but they never rain down oranges, apples, &c. on the heads of the unfortunate actors. They suffer them very quietly to strut their hour upon the stage, and if then they dislike them, they are literally heard no more.

It

It is probable, that, from an attention to these small and seemingly trivial circumstances, we discover more of the real manners of a people, than from the greater and more public events in life, where the passions are naturally excited, and men act under a disguise. A boisterous *Englishman* in *London*, who thinks it a part of his privilege to do what he thinks proper, provided neither the laws nor *Magna Charta* forbid it, when he takes a dislike to an actor, drives all the players off the stage, puts an end to the performance, and insults the whole audience. A *Frenchman* and a *Scotchman*, whom an arbitrary government in one instance, and the remains of it in the other, has softened and humbled, keep their quarrels to themselves, consider the poor player as incapable of resistance, and shew their dislike to them only by not applauding them.

*Comely Garden* is a newly established place, for summer evenings amusement; and may be called the *Vauxhall* of *Edinburgh*. Here you have an orchestra erected in the garden, for music and singing; and when that part of the entertainment is over, the company have an opportunity of dancing (if they chuse it) in a couple of ball-rooms erected for that purpose. This garden is pleasantly situated near the abbey, just under *Arthur's Seat*, and other adjacent hills; which seem to form a natural amphitheatre, well adapted for the purpose to which this lovely spot is now appropriated.

The city is governed by a lord provost, whose office is much the same with that of the lord mayor of *London*; four baillies, who, besides the power of aldermen in the government of this city, have that of sheriffs, and a common-council, ordinarily consisting of 25 persons, but extraordinarily of 38. All these are chosen annually, and the provost, dean of guild, and treasurer, are to be merchants; or if any tradesman be chosen, he must quit his trade, and not return

turn to it without leave of the magistrates and town-council ; and he must also be a year or two a member of the common-council. No one is to continue in the council above two years at a time, except he be a member of it by virtue of a superior office. The bail-lies are to be chosen indifferently out of twelve candidates proposed, and none is to be elected deacon out of any of the fourteen incorporated trades, except he has been a master of his trade two years at least ; and must not continue deacon above two years at a time. The fourteen incorporated trades are :

Surgeons.	Wrights.
Goldsmiths.	Masons.
Skinners.	Taylors.
Farriers.	Bakers.
Hammermen.	Butchers.
Cordwainers.	Wakers, <i>i. e.</i> Fullers.
Weavers.	Bonnet-makers.

The magistrates are chosen annually upon the *Tuesday* next after *Michaelmas-day*, by 38 electors, whereof 20 are to be merchants and tradesmen, who are to chuse such as in their conscience they think best qualified ; and these magistrates and the town council have the administration of the government, except in some reserved cases ; such as the election of magistrates, dean of guild and treasurer, and setting of feus or leases, giving boundaries of places, and other public matters ; in which cases they are to consult the fourteen deacons of trades.

None of the merchants or traders are to have any particular conventions, or make any by-laws among themselves, without consent of the magistrates and town-council, except to chuse their own deacons at the appointed time, to make persons free of their trade, or to try their work ; and one of the commissioners for Parliament (when they had two) was always

ways to be chosen out of the tradesmen, and another out of the merchants. The auditors of accompts are to be chosen out of an equal number of both. The lord provost, dean of guild, and treasurer, are not to continue longer than two years at a time, and the bailie must be one year a baillie, one year old baillie, and one year free of office. Before the Union, the lord provost for the time being was always one of the privy-council.

The trained bands of the city consist of sixteen companies; besides which, they have a standing company of town guards.

And here it will be proper to take notice of the notorious riot committed in this city on the 7th of Sept. 1736, in relation to captain *Porteous*, which made so much noise, and brought down upon this famous city the resentment of the legislature of *Great Britain*.

The case was this: one *Andrew Wilson* was condemned for a robbery of the public money, committed on the highway; and, on *Wednesday* the 14th of *April* 1736, the day appointed for his execution, the magistrates, being apprehensive that a rescue would be attempted, ordered captain-lieutenant *John Porteous*, at the head of a detachment of about 70 men of the city guard, to attend the execution, and powder and ball were delivered to them for that purpose: when, without any just cause, or necessary occasion, he ordered his men to fire upon the people assembled, calling out to them at their second firing, "to level their pieces, and be damned," or words to that effect, and levelling his own piece, mortally wounded one person himself; and about twenty of the guard, obeying his orders, killed and maimed a number of other persons; and by a third firing, killed and wounded many others. This massacre was occasioned only by the populace throwing some stones at the executioner as he was going up the ladder, when the criminal had hung

about fifteen or sixteen minutes, and at the guard : all which however he denied upon his trial ; but, after a very solemn hearing, he was found guilty of firing a gun himself, and ordering his men to fire ; and so was condemned to be hanged upon a gibbet, on the 8th of *Sept.* 1736. The captain drew up a petition to her late majesty, queen *Caroline*, then regent of the kingdom, in the absence of the king ; insisted on his innocence, prayed for mercy ; and, great application having been made to her majesty for changing the sentence to transportation, a reprieve for six weeks was granted ; which arriving on the 2d of *September* at *Edinburgh*, occasioned the most extraordinary riot that ever was known or heard of, all circumstances considered, except that at *York* against the *Jews*, mentioned in Vol. iii. p. 188.

For, on the 7th of *September*, the night before the captain was to be executed, had he not been reprieved, about ten at night, some men by surprize entered the city, and seized all the fire-arms, battle-axes, and drums belonging to the city-guard.

The mob hereupon, in a few minutes, locked and secured all the city-gates, and, with drums beating an alarm, attempted with hammers, and other instruments, to force open the [*Tolbooth*] prison-door : but failing, they desperately set fire to it, and burnt it. When they entered the prison, they made the under-keeper open the double locks of the apartment where the captain was. He begged in vain to be spared till the afternoon ; and making some resistance, they dragged him down stairs by his legs, and hurried him away. This was about eleven at night, when they marched out with lights before them. In their way to the *Grass-market*, passing by a barber's sign-post, some called out to hang him up there ; but it was resolved to hang him where the murders, for which he was condemned, were committed. They therefore proceeded



proceeded to the place where, on executions, the gallows used to be fixed, where they kept him above a quarter of an hour, till they opened a shop, and brought out a rope, one end of which they threw over a sign-post about twenty feet high. He desired some time to prepare for death; but was answered, they would allow him no more than those had, who were shot. They then pulled him up in the dress in which they found him; viz. a night-gown and cap. His hands not being tied, he fixed them between his neck and the rope, whereupon one with a battle-ax struck at his hands. They then let him down, and he having on two shirts, they wrapt one of them about his face, and tied his arms with his nightgown, and then pulled him up again, where he hung till day-light next morning; when he was cut down, and carried to the *Grey-friars* church. Upon inspecting his body, it appeared his left-shoulder was wounded, his back discoloured, and his neck broken.

It was observed, that this mob was under a stricter concert, and better conduct, than usual; for, marching along to the execution, the unhappy man observing a gentleman of his acquaintance, he gave him a purse of 23 guineas, which he desired might be delivered to his brother, which they offered not to obstruct. The left indeed the prison-doors open, whereby several prisoners escaped; but after they had perpetrated this unprecedented fact, they left the arms and drums at the place of execution, where they were found next morning. During the tumult, parties of armed men, with drums, patrolled the different streets, to prevent any surprize from the king's forces quartered in the suburbs. The magistrates attending with several of the burgessees, attempted to disperse the mob; but were pelted with stones, and threatened with fire-arms, if they did not retire. After the execution was over, they went to the lord provost's house; and, telling

ling him they were satisfied, departed, without offering any other violence. Nay, it is said, that to do the act with more decency, having no clergyman, they ordered two of the gravest among them to exhort the unhappy man, as they carried him to execution.

The boldness, secrecy, and conduct of this enterprise, was the most extraordinary instance of its kind that ever was known; and the keeper declaring that, though the persons who first entered and demanded the keys wore leather aprons, they were otherwise well dressed, it made some imagine, that persons above the vulgar rank had an hand in it.

Be this as it would, the insult on the sovereign authority was too flagrant to be overlooked. Proclamations, with rewards of 200*l.* sterling, were issued for apprehending the rioters; and when the Parliament met, vigorous measures were taken in the affair. The lord provost, *Alexander Wilson*, Esq. was ordered up to *London* in custody; the magistrates were ordered up also, to attend the House of Lords at *London*; and finally, an act of Parliament was passed, to disable the said *Alexander Wilson* from holding or enjoying any office of magistracy in *Edinburgh*, or *Great Britain*; a new provost was enjoined to be chosen, and a fine of 2000*l.* levied on the city of *Edinburgh* for the use of the widow of captain *Porteous*, as punishments for their respective remissnesses in not endeavouring to prevent this insult on sovereignty, and all lawful authority.

This act, however, passed not without great debates; and as some thought it impossible to prevent a design so well concerted, and so suddenly and boldly executed, they were of opinion, that the city of *Edinburgh* was treated with too much severity.

This act was passed in the 10th year of his majesty, and in the same year was also passed another, for the more effectually bringing to justice any persons concerned

cerned in this strange attempt; in which fugitives not surrendering were made liable to death; the concealing of those who should be declared fugitives was also made death. This act was to be read before morning sermon in every church in *Scotland*, every *Sunday* for a year: impeachers were to be encouraged, and discharged; informers rewarded with 200*l.* sterling for every person they should convict, and be admitted witnesses.

But so secretly was this dark affair managed, that I do not remember any body suffering on the account; and the reading of the act was but indifferently digested by many in that kingdom.

Great severity was intended; such as the imprisoning, as well as disqualifying the lord provost for a year; the abolishing the town-guard of the city of *Edinburgh*, and the taking away the gates of the *Netherbow Port*, and keeping open the same. But the city of *Edinburgh* was happily saved from this disgrace. They have now taken down this gate, as observed already, of their own accord.

The churches in this populous city and suburbs are 12, including the chapel of the castle; the ministers about 20; besides three chapels.

The 12 churches are:

1. The Canon-gate Kirk.
2. The Collegiate, or College Kirk.
3. The Trone Kirk, or Christ's Kirk.
4. The New Kirk.
5. The Old Kirk.
6. The Tolbooth Kirk.
7. *Haddo's Hole* Kirk.
8. The lady *Yester's* Kirk.
9. 10. The Grey-friars Kirk, now divided into two.
11. The West Kirk, or *St. Cuthbert's*.
12. The chapel of the castle.

} All these are parts of the cathedral of *St. Giles's*.

There

There are also about 20 meeting-houses of the episcopal party ; for though presbytery be the established religion of *Scotland* since the Revolution, yet a great number of the people of all ranks are not of that profession, especially in the northern parts.

There are also three meeting-houses of Seceders ; and the Methodists have built a neat chapel in the orphan-hospital park.

The churches are always very full ; for the people in this country do not wander about on the sabbath-days, as in *England*. They have also one very good custom as to their behaviour in church, which I wish was practised in *England* : if any person comes in after divine service is begun, he takes no notice of any body, nor any body of him ; whereas the *English* make bows and cringes, even in the middle of prayers. Not that the *Scots* want manners ; for they shew them more properly after the sermon is done, and the blessing given, when they all look round upon their friends, especially to persons of distinction, and make their civilities as courteously as their southern neighbours.

The castle only, and the palace, remain to be mentioned. The first is strong both by situation and art, but far from being impregnable, as has been experienced more than once. It was formerly called the *Maiden Castle*, because the *Pictish* kings kept their daughters in it. Still more anciently it was called *Alatum Castrum*, or the *Winged Castle*, perhaps from its form, and standing on so high an hill, as it were in the air. It is situated at the west-end of the city, where the rock rises to an high and large summit. It is inaccessible on the south, west, and north. The entrance is from the town, where the rock is also very high ; and is defended by a round battery, and an out work at the foot of it, with a draw-bridge. In the upper part of the castle is a guard-house, and the  
fortrels

fortress is defended, in different parts, by several batteries of heavy cannon, numbers of which are of brass. In the castle is a royal palace of hewn stone, where are kept the regalia and chief records of state, as also the magazine for the arms and ammunition of the public: it is bomb-proof.

A chapel is also in it for the use of the garrison; and it is furnished with water by two wells in the rock. From the castle is a delightful prospect over the city and neighbouring country, and to the river of *Forth*, from whence it is saluted by such men of war as come to anchor in *Leith* road. The governor is always a person of quality, and general of the forces.

The governor, lieutenant-governor, fort-major, and some other officers, have very good apartments; and there are deep vaults in the rock, which, they say, are bomb-proof.

The palace, called *Holy-rood-house*, is a very handsome building. It may be called the escorial of *Scotland*, being both a royal palace, and an abbey, founded by king *David I.* for canons regular of *St. Austin*, who named it *Holy-rood-house*. The entrance is adorned with pillars of hewn stone, under a cupola in the form of an imperial crown, balustrated on each side. The fore-part has two wings, on each of which are two turrets; that towards the north was built by king *James V.* and that towards the south (as well as the rest) by king *Charles II.* whereof Sir *William Bruce* was architect. The inner court is very stately, all of free-stone well hewed, with piazzas round it, from which are entries into the several apartments, truly royal and magnificent; but, above all, the long-gallery (147 feet in length) is very remarkable, being adorned with the pictures of all the *Scots* kings from *Fergus I.* to *James VII.* inclusive, by masterly hands. Those kings who were eminent, and all the race of  
*Stuarts,*

*Stuarts*, are in full length; the others are but half lengths. In the time of the rebellion (1745) this gallery was used as a barrack for a regiment of soldiers; who have cut and damaged many of the pictures, in a shameful manner.

You turn to the right to the royal apartments, as at *St. James's*; and the stair-case and guard-room run exactly as there, but far more lofty and magnificent. Duke *Hamilton's* apartment (as hereditary keeper) is in the double tower to the north; and the great council-chamber in the tower to the south. The earl of *Perth*, when chancellor, in the late king *James's* reign, converted this noble room into a popish chapel, and his apartments behind it was the jesuits school, which, being demolished by the mob at the Revolution, has been neglected ever since. The chimney-pieces are all of marble, and the apartments two pair of stairs, for the officers of state, are very well kept, being lent to several of the nobility, who now live in them.

Behind this palace, the conventual church makes a wing to the north; and eastward from it is *St. Ann's-yard*, which was designed to be branched out into gravel-walks, adorned with statues; but the Revolution coming on, attended with a long and expensive war, and afterwards the Union with *England*, prevented its being put in execution.

The church (lately repaired at the instance of the earl of *Dundonald*) was very high to the roof, and the pillars as exquisite as those of *St. George's* chapel at *Windsor*. It was an ancient, very reverend, but declining fabric, and used only as a burial-place for persons of quality. In it king *James VI.* was crowned by bishop *Hepburn*, assisted by *John Knox*, as was king *Charles I.* by archbishop *Spotswood*.

The walls and roof of this fine chapel, on *Decem.* 2, 1768, gave way and fell down; and in the night

of

of the 3d, most of the remainder shared the same fate; occasioned by the enormous weight of a new stone roof, laid over it some years ago, which the walls were unable to support, to the eternal disgrace of those *Goths* who laid on such a roof, composed of as heavy materials as themselves.

King *James VII.* began to erect a magnificent throne here for the sovereign, and 12 stalls for the 12 knights companions of the most noble and ancient order of *St. Ananias*, or the thistle, which he had revived after a long disuse. The finest carvers and masters in *Europe* were employed in it. But at the Revolution the rabble demolished all, and ransacked every corner, fell upon a vault quite filled up, so as not to be known what it certainly were, in which were found the bodies of king *James V.* and *Magdalene of Valois*, his first queen, together with lord *Darnley's*, all embalmed.

The adjoining park is about four miles in circumference; but, which is very odd, there is neither deer nor tree in it, though it affords good pasture for cattle. There is a very high and craggy rock in it, near half a mile to the top, called *Arthur's Seat*, from *Arthur* the *British* king, who, they say, used to view the adjacent country from thence.

The glory of this neighbourhood is the new house of the earl of *Abercorn*, built all of fine stone; and is by far the handsomest mansion in *Scotland*: the architect was *Mr. Chambers*, and the builder *Mr. May*.

This palace, or abbey, and park, is a sanctuary for debtors; and no one, but by a special warrant from the Lords of Session (which there are few examples of their granting), can arrest any man, who has entered his name in an office kept there for that purpose.

It would be unpardonable in us to quit the city of *Edinburgh*, without taking notice of a singular circumstance mentioned by *Dr. Johnson* in his *Journey to*  
the



*the Western Islands of Scotland*: "There is one subject of philosophical curiosity to be found in *Edinburgh*, (says the doctor) which no other city has to shew: a college of the deaf and dumb, who are taught to speak, to read, to write, and to practise arithmetic, by a gentleman whose name is *Braidwood*. The number which attends him is, I think, about twelve, which he brings together into a little school, and instructs according to their several degrees of proficiency.

"I do not mean to mention the instruction of the deaf as new. Having been first practised upon the son of a constable of *Spain*, it was afterwards cultivated with much emulation in *England*, by *Wallis* and *Helder*, and was lately professed by Mr. *Baker*, who once flattered me with the hopes of seeing his method published. How far any former teachers have succeeded, it is not easy to know; the improvement of Mr. *Braidwood's* pupils is wonderful. They not only speak, write, and understand what is written, but if he that speaks looks towards them, and modifies his organs by distinct and full utterance, they know so well what is spoken, that it is an expression scarcely figurative to say, they hear with the eye. That any have attained the power mentioned by *Burnet*, of feeling sounds, by laying a hand on the speaker's mouth, I know not; but I have seen so much, that I can believe more: a single word, or a short sentence, I think, may possibly be so distinguished.

"It will readily be supposed by those who consider this subject, that Mr. *Braidwood's* scholars spell accurately. Orthography is vitiated among such as learn first to speak, and then to write, by imperfect notions of the relation between letters and vocal utterance; but to those students every character is of equal importance; for letters are to them not symbols of names, but of things; when they write, they do not represent a sound, but delineate a form.

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" This school I visited, and found some of the scholars waiting for their master, whom they are said to receive at his entrance with smiling countenances and sparkling eyes, delighted with the hope of new ideas. One of the young ladies had her slate before her, on which I wrote a question consisting of three figures, to be multiplied by two figures. She looked upon it, and quivering her fingers in a manner which I thought very pretty, but of which I know not, whether it was art or play, multiplied the sum regularly in two lines, observing the decimal place; but did not add the two lines together, probably disdaining so easy an operation. I pointed at the place where the sum total should stand, and she noted it with such expedition, as seemed to shew that she had it only to write.

" It was pleasing to see one of the most desperate of human calamities capable of so much help: whatever enlarges hope, will exalt courage. After having seen the deaf taught arithmetic, who would be afraid to cultivate the *Hebrides*?"

*Hawthornden*, four miles southward from *Edinburgh*, is celebrated as well for its famous caves hewn out of the rock, as for being the residence of the Scots historian and poet *Drummond*, hence generally termed, *Hawthornden*; and,

*Roslin*, or *Rosland*, six miles from *Edinburgh*, for an ancient chapel of exquisite workmanship, entirely covered over with a stone roof. It is the only thing of this kind that escaped the fury of the first reformers. It is a *Gothic* building on the outside, each buttress having been adorned with statues as big as the life, in the niches, and of each side of the windows, which are very spacious. This chapel lies in *Mid-Lothian*, four miles from *Edinburgh*. The foundation was laid in 1440, by *William St. Clair*, Prince of *Orkney*, duke of *Holdenbourg*, &c. It is remarkable in all this work that there are not two cuts of one sort. The most

curious part of this building is the vault of the choir, and that which is called the *Princess's*, or rather *Princess's Pillar*. This celebrated pillar is of a different construction from any of the rest, being of a spiral form, and adorned with very elegant carved work. From the south-east corner of the chapel (not far from this pillar) you descend, by a flight of steps, into a very spacious light vault, arched over with a strong stone roof; in which there are now no coffins remaining. This chapel was possessed by a provost and seven canons regular, who were endowed with several considerable revenues, through the liberality of the lords of *Roslin*.

*Roslin*, or *Rosland*, has (besides the chapel) large remains of a strong ancient castle, built upon a rock, overlooking a deep valley. The situation of this place is very romantic and picturesque, and remarkable for a number of hanging gardens, on the sides of hills, which produce (in particular) vast quantities of fine strawberries. Here is a commodious inn for the accommodation of those who visit the place, as a great many do in the summer season, it being a pleasant ride from *Edinburgh*.

This place is remarkable, according to *Buchanan*, *Lesley*, and other *Scotch* historians, for three victories obtained over the *English* in one day, in the neighbourhood, by *John Carmichael*, governor of the kingdom, and *John*, as others say, *Simon Fraser*, with 8000 men, over three bodies of the *English*, consisting of 10,000 each, the latter end of *February* 1302.

We next visited *Leith*, the sea-port of *Edinburgh*, which is a large and populous town, or rather two towns; for the river or harbour parts them: but they are joined by an ordinary stone bridge of three small arches, to which ships of burden may come, and, in high water, lay their sides close to the shore.

Here is a very fine quay, well wharfed up with stone, and fenced with piles, able to discharge much more business than the place can supply, though the trade is far from being inconsiderable. At the mouth of the harbour is a very long and well-built pier, or head, which runs out beyond the land a great way, and defends the entrance into the harbour from being filled up with sand, as it would otherwise be, when the wind blows hard at north-east. There is also a strong stone pier now built, on the other side of the harbour, both of which are kept in good repair; and, by this means, the harbour is preserved, and kept open, in spite of a flat shore, and a large swell of the sea.

On the other side of the bridge are the remains of a strong castle, built by *Oliver Cromwell*, to command the port, but is now almost an heap of rubbish. Here the rebel *Highlanders*, in 1715, made a bold stop, and took possession of it for one night; but not finding their friends in the city in any condition to join them, and the troops preparing to attack them, they quitted it in the night, and marched off to the earl of *Winton's* house.

This town was once very strong; for the *French* held it for some years against the reformers, but were at last driven out by an army which queen *Elizabeth* sent from *England* to assist the Protestants. It is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of *Edinburgh*, and is governed by a bailiff under them.

At *Leith* the *Forth* is seven miles over, and holds that breadth for five or six miles; but it is narrower a little beyond *Cramond*; and at *Queen's-ferry* is reduced to three miles in breadth.

Near *Cramond* bridge is *Craigie Hall*, the seat of the hon. *Charles Hope Weir*, Esq. brother to the earl of *Hopton*. This is one of the most beautiful places in the neighbourhood of *Edinburgh*, ornamented with

walks and plantations on the banks of the river ; over which is thrown a bridge of one large arch, built of rough stones, above which the river forms one of the finest cascades imaginable, by running betwixt, and over, a vast number of rocks, whereof the bed of the river, in that part, entirely consists. This bridge very properly bears the motto *nilè dulci*. After passing it you rise a gentle hill, on the top of which is a temple, from whence you have a fine view of the house, park, and adjacent country, which is really very fine.

*Queen's ferry* is a small fishing town situated close by the *Forth* shore, supposed to be so called from St. *Margaret*, queen to king *Malcolm Canmore*, who used to ferry over here as the shortest passage to *Dunfermling*, where she resided much, and laid the foundation of a monastery.

In the middle of the *Forth*, just opposite to this village, is a small island, with the remains of an ancient castle upon it. Here is a fine flat corn country along the southern banks of the *Forth* ; but on the other side, to wit, *Fifeshire*, we see a vast ridge of mountains.

After leaving *Leith*, we have a beautiful prospect of the city and castle of *Edinburgh* on our left, in which the whole city appears not unlike an huge castle, by reason of the height of its houses.

At *Cramond*, just mentioned, and in the lands of *Ingleston*, as well as at other places in this country, Roman antiquities have been found : particularly near the former place were dug up two stones, late in Sir *Robert Sibbald's* yard at *Edinburgh*, upon one of which is a laurel crown, and on the other a Roman *securus* ; they are supposed to have been part of a pillar erected in *Domitian's* time, when *Agricola* was in these parts. Near this place, in the beginning of *December* 1740, a whale between 50 and 60 feet in length, and 16 in depth, was cast on shore ; whose mate afterwards  
tumbling

tumbling about above the ferry, was heard to make an hideous moan, as supposed, for its loss.

Between *Edinburgh* and this town the country is thronged with the seats of noblemen and gentlemen; among which, *Hope of Craigie-hall* has a very pretty one, with a fine garden inclosed with a brick wall, a thing hardly to be seen any where else in *Scotland*; the want of which is the reason why the wall-fruit does not thrive so well as it would otherwise do; for stone does not hold the warmth of the sun, after it is gone, as bricks do.

But the great beauty of this part of the country is *Hopton-house*, built upon a delightful plain, on the bank of the river. It was originally a square; but there are two wings lately joined to it, which add greatly to the beauty of the building. The situation is so extremely good, and gives so elegant a prospect as well to the sea as to the land, that nothing can be finer. It is exquisitely finished both within and without; and there are some pieces of curious paintings in it, besides a great number of family pictures.

From hence the *Forth* widens again, and soon after is three or four miles wide, and makes a safe and deep road, with good anchor-ground, where, if there were a trade to answer it, a thousand sail of ships of any burthen might safely ride.

On the south shore, upon a narrow point of land running into the water, stands *Blackness* castle, wherein state-prisoners were confined in former times, especially such as were taken up for religious differences; many of whom miserably perished here, either by the unhealthiness of the place, want of conveniences, or something worse. This castle might be of use, if the harbour were more frequented; but as it is not much so, there seems to be no occasion for it at present.

Farther west is *Burrowsounness*, a long town, consisting only of one straggling street, which is extended along the shore, close to the water. It has been a town of the greatest trade to *Holland* and *France* of any in *Scotland*, except *Leith*; but it suffered very much of late by the *Dutch* trade being carried on so much by the way of *England*.

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### L E T T E R III.

Containing a DESCRIPTION of the following  
*Shires and Towns*, viz. *Annan*, *Dumfries*,  
*Galloway*, *Air*, *Renfrew*, *Glasgow*, *Stirling*,  
*Linlithgow*, *Clidisdale*, *Tweeddale*,  
*Roxborough*, &c.

AS I entered the east side of *Scotland* at *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, and have carried on my account through the *Lothians*, so, having travelled over the west part at another journey, when I went from *England* by a different road, I shall here give the particulars of that.

Passing the river *Esk*, or (as it is commonly called) the *Solway firth*, beyond *Carlisle*, we entered *Scotland* on the side of *Dumfriesshire*. The division of this county into *Eskdale*, *Nithsdale*, and *Annandale*, is but the ordinary marking out the rivers *Esk*, *Annan*, and *Nith*; for the whole province makes but one shire, viz. that of *Dumfries*.

The first place of note we came to in *Scotland* was *Annan*, the chief town of *Annandale*, which, being a sea-port, and having a good harbour, was once a town of pretty good trade; but it was often taken by the



the *English*, who, at last, burnt it to the ground in the reign of king *Edward VI.* from which it never recovered. This place has trade in wines; the annual exports are between twenty and thirty thousand *Winchester* bushels of corn.

The town and castle of *Lochmaben* is a royal burgh, as well as *Annan*. Three parts of it are furrounded by lakes, which afford excellent fish; and one particularly, which is found no where else. The castle, as well as that of *Annan*, is now demolished.

*Moffat*, a small town on the river *Annan*, is remarkable for its medicinal springs, as I before mentioned.

The town of *Rivel* deserves to be mentioned, on account of a very good salt made out of a particular sand there, which they gather up and boil.

From *Annan*, keeping the sea as close as we could to the left, we went on due west to *Dumfries*, a seaport town at the mouth of the river *Nid*, or *Nith*, which gives name to the third division of the county, called *Nithsdale*; but this town is the capital of the whole shire, and indeed of all the south-west part of *Scotland*.

*Dumfries* was always a good town, with large streets, and full of reputable and wealthy merchants, who trade into foreign parts, and employ a considerable number of ships, especially since they have embarked in trade to *England*, and the *English* plantations. This town is also advantageously situated for an increase of commerce on the river *Nid*, or *Nith*; for, though it stands near two leagues from the sea, yet the tide flows up to the town, and ships of burden come close up to the quay; and, about four miles below it, the largest merchant-ships in *Britain* may ride in safety.

Over the river *Nith* is a very fine stone bridge, at this place, with nine arches, and so broad, that two

coaches may go a-breast on it. Here they have also an exchange for the merchants, an handsome church, a tolbooth or prison, and a town-hall for the use of the magistrates.

They were once possessed of a large share of the tobacco trade, but at present they have scarcely any commerce. The great weekly markets for black cattle are of much advantage to the place; and vast droves from *Galloway* and the shire of *Air*, pass through in their way to the fairs in *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*.

The castle in this town is very old; yet is still pretty good and strong. This castle, as well as that at *Carlawrock*, near the mouth of the river, which has been a very magnificent structure, belonged formerly to the ancient family of the *Maxwells*, earls of *Nithsdale*; the only remaining part of which, being unhappily embarked in the rebellion of 1715, and taken in arms at *Preston* in *Lancashire*, made his escape out of the *Tower*, and never was retaken.

*Dumfries* was continually subject to the inroads of the *English*, and was frequently ruined by them. To prevent their invasions, a great ditch and mound, called *Warders Dikes*, were formed from the *Nith* to *Lochermoss*, where watch and ward were constantly kept; and when an enemy appeared, the cry was a *loreburn*, a *loreburn*. The meaning is no farther known, than that it was a word of alarm for the inhabitants to take to their arms; and the word, as a memento of vigilance, is inscribed on a ring of silver round the ebony staff, given into the hands of the provost as a badge of office on the day of annual election.

On most of the eminences of these parts, beacons were likewise established for alarming the country on any irruption of their southern neighbours; and the inhabitants able to bear arms were bound, on the firing of these signals, to appear instantly to the warden

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of the marches, and not to depart till the enemy was driven out the country; and this under pain of high treason.

There are many considerable woods in this country, the chief of which is *Holy-wood*, where was an abbey, which gave surname to the famous astrologer *Johannes de Sacro Bosco*, or *Holy wood Drumlanrig* also, the noble palace of *Queensberry*, is remarkable for its wood of oak six miles long.

At this time the river *Nith* parts the stewartry of *Galloway*, and the shire of *Dumfries*; and in the middle of the bridge over it is a gate, which is the limit between them. This neighbourhood of *Galloway*, which is a great and rich province, promotes the trade of this place very much.

We could not pass *Dumfries*, without going out of our way to see the castle of *Drumlanrig*, the fine palace of the duke of *Queensberry*, just mentioned, which stands at twelve miles distance upon the same river. The vale on each side is pleasant, and tolerably good; but when these rapid rivers overflow their banks, they do not, like *Nile*, or even like the *Thames*, and other southern streams, fatten and enrich the soil; but, on the contrary, they lodge so much sand and splinters of stone upon the surface of the earth, and among the roots of the grass, that it spoils and beggars it; nay, the water is sometimes hurried on with such force, that it washes the best part of the earth away, where the soil is light.

*Drumlanrig* is like a fine picture in a dirty grotto, or an equestrian statue set up in a barn. It is environed with mountains, which have the wildest and most hideous aspect of any in all the south part of Scotland.

We were not so much surprised with the height of the mountains, and the barrenness of the country beyond them, as with the manners of the people, who

are not so polished here, as in other parts of *Scotland*. But what was most wonderful, was, to see so glorious a palace, with such fine gardens, and every thing about it so truly magnificent, standing in a wild and mountainous country, where nothing but what was desolate and dismal could be expected. However, the situation like that of *Chatsworth* in *Derbyshire*, is certainly a foil to the buildings, and sets them off with greater advantage.

If you come to the palace by the road, which leads to it from *Edinburgh*, you pass the river *Nith*, which is there both broad and deep, over a stone bridge, erected by the noble founder of the castle, and builder of the house, the first duke of *Queensberry*.

The building is four-square, with roundels on the inner angles of the court, in every one of which is a stair-case, and a kind of tower on the top. It stands on the summit of a rising ground, which is beautifully laid out in slopes and terraces. At the extent of the gardens are pavilions and banqueting-houses, exactly answering to one another; and the greens, espaliers, and hedges are in great perfection.

The apartments are fine, and richly furnished. The gallery is filled, from one end to the other, with family pictures of the duke's ancestors, most of them at full length, and in their robes of state, or of office. *William*, the first of the family, was a younger son of *James* earl of *Douglas*, who got the barony of *Drumlanrig* by a deed from his father, as his portion in the time of king *Robert III*. He was afterwards sent ambassador to *England*, to ransom king *James I*. who was detained there. In the year 1708, the late duke of *Queensberry* was created duke of *Dover*, as also marquis of *Beverley*, and baron of *Ripon* in *England*.

The next trip we made was to *Galloway*, so called from the *Gauls*, from whom the ancient inhabitants descended. It is divided into two different districts:

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that towards the west is called the shire of *Wigton*, and the other towards the east is called the stewartry of *Kirkcudbright*, of which the *Maxwells*, earls of *Nithsdale*, were heretable stewards. The country hereabouts seems one continued heath, proper for grazing small cattle, which are generally sold in *England*; and wherever you perceive a grove of trees, you may depend upon it, there is a laird's house near it, which are mostly old towers of stone, strongly built, to prevent a surprize from inroads, which were frequent between the two nations before the death of queen *Elizabeth*.

The first town of note on the coast is *Kirkcudbright*. Though its situation is extremely convenient for carrying on a very advantageous commerce, we saw nothing but an harbour without ships, a port without trade, and a fishery without nets. This is owing partly to the poverty, and partly to the disposition of the inhabitants, who are indeed a sober, grave, religious sort of people, but have no notion of acquiring wealth by trade; for they strictly obey the scriptures in the very letter of the text, by "being content with such things as they have." The river *Dee*, which enters the sea here, and forms the harbour, comes out of the mountains near *Carrick*, and is full of turnings and meanders, that, though it is not above 70 miles in a line, it runs near 200 miles in its course.

The county of *Galloway* lies due west from *Dumfries*; and as that part of it they call the *Upper Galloway* runs out farther into the *Irish* seas than the rest, all that bay on the south-side may be reckoned part of *Solway Firth*, as all on the north-side is called the *Firth of Clyde*, though near 50 miles from the river itself.

The western *Galloway*, or the shire of *Wigton*, runs out with a peninsula so far into the sea, that, from the

utmost shores, you see the coast of *Ireland*, as plain as you see *Calais* from *Dover*.

*Port Patrick*, which is the ordinary place for the ferry or passage to *Belfast*, and other ports in *Ireland*, has a tolerable good harbour, and a safe road; but there is very little use for it at present; the packet-boat, and a few fishing-vessels, when I was there, were the sum of its navigation.

Upon an hill near the town we plainly saw *Ireland* to the south-west, the coast of *Cumberland*, and the *Isle of Man*, to the south-east, and the *Isle of Ila*, and the *Mull of Kintyre*, to the north-west.

As we passed into the peninsula, we stopped at *Stranraer*, situate on the north-side of the isthmus, which is formed by two arms of the sea; one on the north-side, called *Loch-Rian*; and the other on the south called the bay of *Glenluce*. Upon the former of these bays, (for such they both are) stands this town. It is a royal burgh, which has a most convenient position, in respect to the great body of water it commands, and to the country lying round on every side; so that from the latter it derives a reasonable share of domestic trade, and some foreign commerce, as also a small intercourse with our *North American* colonies from the former. *Port Patrick*, standing a little distance to the west, immediately on the sea, is a member of this, with eight creeks belonging to it; and exclusive of these, there are two, which immediately depend on *Stranraer*, with a custom-house, and a proper establishment, and some officers also for the receipt of the revenue arising from salt. The peninsula before described, on which are *Port Patrick* and all its creeks, may be from its northern horn, which is called *Fairland-Point*, to the *Mull of Galloway*, in its southern extremity, about 30 *English* miles in length, and from three to six in breadth, containing in the whole 90 square miles at least. In the old language  
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of the natives, it was called the *Rinnis of Galloway*; and though no way extraordinary in respect to soil, being hilly rather than mountainous, yet it is not deficient in grain, abounds in grass, and consequently in sheep and black cattle. But if any manufactures were introduced here, as there is room for many, and raw materials for several, the excellence of its situation, (which is alike favourable for fishing, coasting, and foreign commerce) would quickly appear, and render this district, which is equal in size to *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, not inferior to them in cultivation, produce, or number of people; to accomplish which salutary change, there are no other instruments requisite than industry and perseverance; for were these once perfect, experience and emulation would quickly effect the rest.

Six miles south of *Wigton* lies *Whithorn*, the ancient *Candida Casa*, a royal burgh, but very poor, especially since the dissolution of the priory.

But though the people of *Galloway*, especially on the sea-coast, are much to blame for not falling into commerce, navigation, &c. yet they are not quite idle; for they are great cultivators of the earth, and breeders of cattle, of which they send above 50,000 head every year to *England*. Besides, they have the best breed of strong, low, punch horses in *Britain*, if not in *Europe*, which are from thence called *Galloways*. These horses, which are very much bought up in *England*, are remarkable for being good natural pacers, strong, easy goers, hardy, gentle, well-broken, and, above all, not apt to tire.

Proceeding from *Lower Galloway* hither, we had like to have been driven down the stream of a river, though a countryman went before for our guide; for the water swelled upon us as we passed, and the stream was very strong, so that we were obliged to turn our horses heads to the current; and sloping over, edged  
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near the shore by degrees; whereas, if our horses had stood directly cross the stream, they could not have kept their feet. The inhabitants follow fishing, as well in the sea, as in the rivers and loughs, which lie every where under the hills; in which, about *September*, they catch an incredible number of excellent eels; by which they are no less gainers, than by their little horses.

This part of the country is very mountainous, and some of the hills prodigiously high; but they were all covered with sheep, and other cattle, the gentlemen hereabouts being the greatest sheep-masters (for so they call themselves), and the greatest breeders of black cattle and horses in *Scotland*.

We now entered the shire of *Air*, full north from the *Mull*, or north-point of *Galloway*: and as we before coasted the south bay, or *Firth* of *Solway*, which parts *England* from *Scotland*, so now we coasted the *Firth* of *Clyde*, which, for near 60 miles, lies on the west-side of the shore, standing away north-east from the point of the *Mull*. This shire is divided into three great bailleries; viz. *Carrick*, *Kyle*, and *Cunningham*.

*Carrick* is a more fruitful and better cultivated country than *Galloway*, and not so mountainous; but it does not so much abound in cattle, especially sheep and horses. Though there is no considerable port in this part of the country, yet the people begin to trade here; and those who live towards the coast are great fishermen, and are employed by the merchants of *Glasgow*, and other places, to catch herrings for them. *May-hole* is the chief town; but though it stands on the coast, it has no harbour, and is poor and decayed. The market is pretty good, because there are many gentlemen in the neighbourhood, and the coast near it

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full of people; but the houses are mean, low, and very coarse.

Coming to the north bounds of *Carrick*, we passed the river *Dun*, over a bridge of one arch, consisting of 90 feet; which is much larger than the *Rialto* at *Venice*, or the middle arch of the great bridge at *York*. We found many large ones in this country, though I think, none so large as this, except at *Glasgow* and *Stirling*. This bridge led us into the county of *Kyle*, the second division of the shire of *Air*. Here I observed, that, contrary to our expectation, we found, the farther North we travelled, the country was the finer, better, and richer.

*Kyle* is more populous than *Carrick*; and the soil being better here, and the country more plain and level, on the banks of the river are abundance of gentlemen's seats, though most of them are built castle-wise, because of enemies; but that fear being now over, they begin to plant and inclose after the manner of *England*.

Over the river *Air* is a bridge of four arches, near the *New Town*; and south of the bridge stands the old town of *Air* or *Erigena*, famous for its antiquity and privileges. It has a very large jurisdiction of near 64 miles, reaching from the mouth of *Clyde* to the borders of *Galloway*. It stands on a sandy plain, but has pleasant green fields two miles south and north of it. In the fields betwixt the mouth of the river *Dun* and *Air*, stands a very beautiful church. The town has a very good harbour in the river, and lies conveniently for trade; and it is easy to see, that it has been much larger than it is at present. It is now like an old beauty, and shews the ruins of a good face, but is still decaying every day; and from having been the fifth best town in *Scotland*, as the townsmen say, it is now the fifth worst; which is owing to the decay of its trade: so true it is, that commerce is the life of cities, of nations, and even of kingdoms. What

was the reason of the decay of trade in this place, is not easy to determine, the people themselves being either unwilling or unable to tell. Here, over the river *Irwin*, which divides *Air* from *Cunningham*, is a good bridge of four arches. *Air* is noted for the treacherous murder of many noblemen and gentlemen by the *English* in *Wallace's* time; when they were called together during a truce, (after *Edward I.* had over-run the country), on pretence of holding a court of justice; and were treacherously hanged one after another, as they entered the king's large barns, where the court was held.

This was as severely, as justly, revenged by *Wallace*, with whom, as warden of *Scotland*, they had made the truce, and whom they endeavoured to entice thither by their charter of peace, as they had done a great many others of quality. But he, having notice of what had passed, surprised them that very night in their jollity, rejoicing that they had, as they thought, by these treacherous murders, secured *Scotland* for ever; and having set guards round the barns, that none should escape, he burnt all the *English* in them. The ruins of those barns are still shewn here.

*Oliver Cromwell* built a citidel at *Air*, well fortified with a fosse, and a stone wall. At the Restoration it was demolished; and at present only some houses, and angles of the ramparts, are standing.

From *Air*, keeping still North, we came to *Irvin*, upon a river of the same name. Here they have a port, which formerly was in much better condition than it has been for some years past, the harbour being so much decayed by length of time, and other accidents, that the trade of the town began to decay; for the water not being confined to its proper channel, the harbour became so choaked up with sand-banks, that it was of little use to what it had been; so that ships of very small burden were frequently shut up for several

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several months in the river before they could sail out to sea. Their chief trade, now their harbour is cleared, is in *Scots* coal, which they export in great quantities to *Ireland*; for the neighbouring hills abound with this commodity. *Irvin* is the capital of that division of the shire of *Air*, which they call *Cunningham*; and is really within the *Firth* of *Clyde*, though not actually within the river itself. The name of *Cunningham* signifies the *king's habitation*, from the beauty of its situation.

Here are two handsome streets, a good quay, and a capacious harbour. The country is rich and fruitful, filled with gentlemen's seats, and well-built houses; and wherever you turn your eye, you see nothing but beautiful inclosures, pleasant pastures, and grass-grounds, so that we thought ourselves in *England* again.

A little from *Irvin* stood *Kilmarnock* castle, the seat of the family of the *Boys*, late earls of *Kilmarnock*, which, on the 15th of *March* 1739, was entirely consumed, with the furniture, and a curious collection of books and MSS. nothing being saved but the charter-chest. On the other side is the castle of *Eglington*, the seat of the ancient family of the *Montgomeries*, earls of *Eglington*. On the north-east borders of this country, where it joins to *Clydsdale*, is the castle of *Loudon*, the noble and beautiful seat of the earl of *Loudon*.

Upon the bay of *Clyde* stands the town of *Largis*, famous for the defeat of the *Norwegians* by king *Alexander III.* of *Scotland*.

*Kilmaers*, in the same county, is the seat of the noble and ancient family of *Cunningham*, earls of *Glencairn*.

In the sea lies *Lady Isle*, where is great plenty of rabbits and fowl, but no inhabitants.

With the division of *Cunningham* I quitted the shire of *Air*, which is, without exception, one of the pleasantest counties in *Scotland*.

Joining

Joining to it North, and bordering on the *Clyde* itself, lies the barony of *Renfrew*, which was the ancient paternal estate of the *Stuarts*, before they succeeded to the crown of *Scotland*; and his royal highness the prince of *Wales*, among other titles, is styled baron of *Renfrew*. It is a pleasant, rich, and populous country; and though the soil is not thought to be so good as in *Cunningham*, yet that is abundantly recompensed by the neighbourhood of *Glasgow* and the *Clyde*, and the great commerce of both.

The ancient channel of the *Clyde*, into which the tide flows, furnishes it with a very convenient harbour, called *Puddock*; and, by spring-tides, vessels of tolerable burden are brought up to the bridge. The inhabitants addict themselves pretty much to the *Irish* trade; and having the benefit of a public ferry, draw no small advantage from being the centre of correspondence between the counties on both sides of the *Firth*.

We kept our route from *Irvin* along the coast, as near as we could; so that we saw all the *Firth* of the *Clyde*, and the very opening itself, which is just at the west-corner of this county. There are some villages and fishing towns within the mouth of this river, which have good business.

The first town of note is called *Greenock*, which seems not to be an ancient place, but to be grown up in later years, by being a good road for ships to ride in, that come into and go out of *Glasgow*, as ships for *London* do in the *Downs*. The town is well built, has many rich trading families in it, and a castle to command the road. It is the chief place in the west of *Scotland* for the herring-fishing; and the merchants of *Glasgow*, who are concerned in it, employ their vessels for catching and curing the fish, and for carrying them abroad to market afterwards; and their being ready on all hands to go to sea, makes them often

leave

leave the care of their own ships to the *Greenock* men, who are good seamen, and excellent pilots for those difficult seas.

At the west-end of a bay on the *Firth* is a small town, called *Gowrock*, where are a good road and harbour lately fitted up.

*Paisley* is a considerable but irregularly built town, at the distance of six miles from *Glasgow*. It was erected into a burgh of barony in the year 1488, and the affairs of the community are managed by three baillies, (of which the eldest is commonly in the commission of the peace), a treasurer, a town-clerk, and seventeen counsellors, who are annually elected upon the first *Monday* after *Michaelmas*. It stands on both sides the river *Cart*, over which it has three stone bridges, each of two arches. The river runs from south to north, and empties itself into the *Clyde*, about three miles below the town. At spring-tides, vessels of forty tons burthen come up to the quay; and, as the magistrates are now clearing and deepening the river, it is hoped still larger may be hereafter get up. The communication by water is of great importance to the inhabitants, for sending their goods and manufactures to *Port-Glasgow* and *Greenock*, and, if they chuse it, to *Glasgow*. Besides, when the grand canal shall be finished, they will have an easy communication with the *Firth* of *Forth*, as the canal joins the *Clyde* about three or four miles north of *Paisley*.

About fifty years ago, the making of white stitching thread was first introduced into the west country by a private gentlewoman, Mrs. *Millar* of *Bargarran*, who, very much to her own honour, imported a swift-mill, and other necessary apparatus, from *Holland*, and carried on a small manufacture in her own family. This branch, now of such general importance to *Scotland*, was soon after established in *Paisley*, where it has ever since been on the encrease, and has  
now

now diffused itself over all parts of the kingdom. In other places, girls are bred to it: here they may be rather said to be born to it, as almost every family makes some threads, or have made formerly. It is generally computed, that, in the town and neighbourhood, white threads are annually made to the amount of from 40 to 50,000*l*.

They likewise carry on manufactures of lawn to a great amount. Vast quantities of foreign yarn are annually imported from *France, Germany, &c* and it is thought, that the lawn branch here amounts to about 70,000*l*. annually. They have likewise a manufactory of silk gauze, of ribbons, besides several others of a more local kind.

So late as the year 1746, by a very accurate survey, this town was found to contain scarce 4000 inhabitants; but it is now thought not to have less than from 10 to 12,000, all ages included.

The earl of *Abercon's* burial-place is by much the greatest curiosity in *Paisley*. It is an old *Gothic* chapel, without pulpit or pew, or any ornament whatever; but it has the finest echo perhaps in the world. When the end-door, the only one it has, is shut, the noise is equal to a loud and not very distant clap of thunder: if you strike a single stroke of music, you hear the sound gradually ascending, till it dies away, as if at an immense distance, and all the while diffusing itself through the circumambient air. If a good voice sings, or a musical instrument is well played upon, the effect is inexpressibly agreeable.

The country between *Paisley* and *Glasgow*, on the bank of *Clyde*, I take to be one of the most agreeable places in *Scotland*, for its situation, fertility, healthiness, and for the benefits it receives from the neighbourhood of *Glasgow*, and the sea.

The great church of *Glasgow*, and that noble street of *Paisley*, are about 600 years old, and are authentic proofs



proofs of the power and riches of the church in those days, which was able, in times of poverty and rudeness, to erect a variety of noble piles, the expence of any one of which would sensibly distress the whole of this part of the united kingdom, in its now flourishing state, to finish. However, the present editors must observe, that St. *Mungo's* church at *Glasgow*, was not built at the expence of the *Scotch* only; but, according to the custom of the times, the building was carried on by the assistance of good Christians, all over *Europe*. This was the case even in *England*, where many public fabrics were reared in the same manner: and they believe it will be found, that the famous minster of *York* was several hundred years in building.

I am now come to the bank of *Clyde*; but my method here, as in *England*, forbids my wandering North, till I have taken a full view of the South. The *Clyde* and the *Forth* may be said to cross *Scotland* here, their two *Firths* not being above 20 miles distant from one another, which, when joined, will divide it very near in the centre.

*Glasgow* is the emporium of the west of *Scotland*, being, for its commerce and riches, the second in this northern part of *Great Britain*. It is a large, stately, and well-built city, standing on a plain, in a manner four-square; and the four principal streets are the fairest for breadth, and the finest built, that I have ever seen in one city together. The houses are all of stone, and generally uniform in height, as well as in front. The lower stories, for the most part, stand on vast square *Doric* columns, with the arches, which open into the shops, adding to the strength, as well as the beauty, of the building. In a word, it is one of the cleanliest, most beautiful, and best-built cities in *Great Britain*.

It

It stands on the side of an hill, sloping to the river; only that part next the river, for near one-third of the city, is flat, and by this means exposed to the water, upon any extraordinary flood: it is situated upon the east bank of the *Clyde*, which is not navigable to the town but by small vessels. Its port therefore is *Newport Glasgow*, which stands near the *Clyde's* mouth, and is an harbour for ships of the greatest burden. Here it is on a good wharf or quay the merchants load and unload. Their custom-house is also here, and their ships are here repaired, laid up, and fitted out, either here or at *Greenock*, where work is well done, and labour cheap.

The old bridge over the *Clyde* consists of eight arches, and was built by *William Rea*, bishop of this see, about 400 years ago. A new one has been lately added, of seven arches, with circular holes between each to carry off the superfluous waters in the great floods. The bridge deviates from the original plan, which was very elegant, and free from certain defects that disgrace the present.

Where the four principal streets meet, the crossing makes a very spacious market-place, as may be easily imagined, since the streets are so large. In the centre stands the cross. The houses in these streets are all built upon one model, with piazzas under them, faced with Ashler stone, and well fashioned. As we come down the hill from the *North-gate* to this place, the *Tolbooth* and *Guild-hall* make the north-west angle, or right-hand corner of the street, which is now rebuilt in a very magnificent manner. It is a noble structure of hewn stone, with a very lofty tower, and melodious hourly chimes. All these four principal streets are adorned with several public buildings.

But the chief ornament of the city is the college or university, a most magnificent and stately fabric,  
consisting

consisting of several courts. The front to the city is of hewn stone, and excellent architecture. Its precincts were lately enlarged by some acres of ground purchased for it by public money; and it is separated from the rest of the city by a very high wall.

It owes its erection to archbishop *Turnbull*, and was legally founded by king *James II.* in 1453, by virtue of a bull from pope *Nicholas V.* granting it all the privileges, liberties, honours, immunities, and exemptions, given by the apostolical see to the college of *Bononia* in *Italy*, for teaching universal learning. They are enabled by the munificence of a generous benefaction, to send exhibitioners to *Baliol* college, in the university of *Oxford*. A rector, a dean of the faculty, a principal or warden, who was to teach theology, three philosophy-professors were established by the first foundation; and afterwards some clergymen taught the civil and canon law there.

In 1577, king *James VI.* established a principal, three professors of philosophy, four bursars, a steward to furnish their table, a servant for the principal, a janitor to look after the gate, and a cook.

The family of *Hamilton* gave some of the ground on which the college stands, with an adjacent field.

Kings, Parliaments, the city of *Glasgow*, several of the archbishops, and many particular persons, have been benefactors to it.

In 1662, the earl of *Dundonald* gave 1000*l.* sterling to it, for the maintenance of poor scholars. The great *Buchanan*, and the famous *Cameron*, had, among other eminent men, their education here.

Several fine *Roman* stones, digged up in the latter end of 1740, near *Kirkintilloch*, with very curious inscriptions, have been removed to this university, where before was a good collection of pieces of antiquity, chiefly found near the same place.

Within

Within these few years, very genteel houses have been built for the professors, and an handsome observatory erected.

In the higher part of the city stands the great church, formerly cathedral and metropolitan, dedicated to St. *Mungo*, who was bishop here, about the year 560. It is a magnificent and stately edifice, and surprises the beholders with its stupendous bigness, and the workmanship of the artisan. The several rows of pillars, and the exceeding high spire which rises from a square tower in the middle of the cross, shew a wonderful piece of architecture. It is now divided into several preaching places, one above the other.

Near the church stands a ruinous castle, formerly the residence of the archbishop, who was legal lord or superior of the city, which stands on his ground, and from whom it received its first charter, and many privileges. It is encompassed with an exceeding high wall of hewn stone, and has a fine prospect into the city.

The great import of this city is tobacco, in which they carry on a most extensive trade. In the year 1769, they imported from *Virginia*, *Maryland*, and *Carolina*, 35,558 hogsheads; in 1770, from the same places, 38,970 hogsheads. But, what is very remarkable, at the end of the last mentioned year, not any part of this vast stock remained unfold, it being disposed of in different parts of *Europe*. In the year 1771, their commerce still encreased, having in that year imported 49,015 hogsheads; but of this 1142 hogsheads remained unfold at the expiration of the year. The tobacco trade continued encreasing, till the present unhappy disputes with the colonies, in some measure, put an end to it, since which time it has run into the channel of the *French* and *Dutch*. It is probable, that the merchants of *Glasgow*, as soon as they

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they saw the storm gathering, bought up all they could of this commodity; and there is the more room to form this conjecture, as it is confidently asserted, that they have tobacco enough in their warehouses to answer the consumption for a long time to come. This they are now, 1777, and have been for some time past, selling out at such an advanced price, that by the produce of the stock in hand only, many will acquire ample fortunes.

The origin of foreign trade in this great city is extremely worthy of attention. A merchant, of the name of *Walter Gibson*, by an adventure, first laid the foundation of its wealth. About the year 1668, he cured, and exported, in a *Dutch* vessel, 300 lasts of herrings, each containing six barrels, which he sent to *St. Martin's* in *France*, where he got a gallon of brandy and a crown for each. The ship returning laden with brandy and salt, the cargo was sold for a great sum. He then launched farther into business, bought the vessel and two large ships besides, with which he traded to different parts of *Europe*, and to *Virginia*. He also first imported iron to *Glasgow*; for before that time it was imported from *Stirling* and *Barrowstonness*, in exchange for died stuffs; and even the wine consumed in this city was brought from *Edinburgh*. Yet I find no statue, no grateful inscription, to preserve the memory of *Walter Gibson*!

We must not quit *Glasgow* without observing, that their printing is a very considerable branch of business, and they have been remarkable for many correct editions of the classics.

From *Glasgow* I went eight miles southward to *Hamilton*, a town pleasant and well-built, the church of which is the burying-place of the noble family of *Hamilton*. But it is chiefly noted for its fine palace, the seat of the duke of *Hamilton*, premier peer of *Scotland*, and nearly related to the royal family of the *Stuarts*.

*Hamilton* house, or palace, is at the end of the town: a large, disagreeable pile, with two deep wings at right angles with the centre. The gallery is of great extent, furnished, as well as some other rooms, with most excellent paintings.

*Ruglen* is another town in this county, which gives title of earl to a branch of the family of *Hamilton*.

*Crawford-Lindsay*, in this county, gives title also to the earl of *Crawford*, who claims precedency as first earl.

In *Crawford-Moor*, gold has been found in the sand of the brooks after rain, and that in pretty large pieces; and they have dug up *lapis lazuli* there. The remains of a *Roman* causeway are to be seen in this county, from one end to the other.

We then turned to the left for *Stirlingshire*, and, after passing the *Clyde*, came to *Kilfyth*, a good plain country burgh, tolerably well built, but not large, near which the marquis of *Montrose* overthrew the covenanters in the civil wars. Here, upon a particular occasion, we went to see *Calendar-house*, the seat of the unhappy earl of *Kilmarnock*, commander of the rebel hussars in 1745. It is an old building, that had been some time in decay; but has on the back of it, upon an hill, a fine wood of firs. In the front is a vast space of level ground, the *Forth* keeping its course in the middle; and the great number of gentlemen's seats on either side the banks of the *Forth*, yields a noble prospect from hence. These houses are of white stone, the roofs covered with blue slate, which make an agreeable glittering when the sun shines upon them.

The town of *Falkirk* is about a mile from *Calendar-house*; but has nothing remarkable in it, except the other old decayed house of the earl of *Calendar*.

In this neighbourhood is the *Carron* iron manufactory, in which several hundred men are employed, to

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the great advantage of the proprietors. Indeed the whole country wears a new face; manufactures flourishing so much, that it bids fair to be the most populous shire in *Scotland*. The *CANAL*, which is to form a communication between the *Firth* of *Forth* and that of *Clyde*, begins on the south side of the *Carron*. Its course will be above thirty miles, assisted by thirty-nine locks. Its western termination is to be at *Dalmuir-Cuirn-foot*, eight miles below *Glasgow*; but, for the conveniency of this city, it is proposed to form another branch from the great trench, at a place called the *Stocking Bleachfield*, between two and three miles distant from the city.

*Tor-wood* is in the neighbourhood of this town. It chiefly consists of firs and beech. The town of *Stirling*, nine miles off, being built, like *Edinburgh*, on an hill, makes a fine appearance from hence.

About *Falkirk* we plainly saw the remains of the ancient work, which they call *Severus's* wall, *Adrian's* wall, or *Graham's* dyke (for it is known by all these names); built by the *Romans* cross this narrow part of the country, and fortified with redoubts and stations, to defend the south country from the incursions of the *Picts*, *Irish*, and other wild nations, in the *Highlands*. This wall reached from *Dunbriton Firth* (so they called the *Firth* of *Clyde*) to the *Forth*, and was several times repaired, till the destruction of the *Roman* empire in *Britain*, with which it perished. Yet neither this, while it stood, nor the stronger one at *Newcastle*, called *Severus's* wall, could so well preserve the country from the invasion of *Picts* and *Scots*, but the *Romans* were often obliged to send powerful succours to the relief of the distressed *Britons*. *Camden* thinks that this wall was built by *Antoninus Pius*, who, being adopted by *Adrian*, assumed his name. Be this as it will, it is certain, that in all the *Scottish* histories it is called *Graham's Dyke*. I have already.



Vol. III. p. 325, given the account of this famous wall, from the work of *John Warburton*, Esq. intitled *Vallum Romanum*; to which I refer.

There were along the wall great and noble forts, strongly intrenched, and, though within the wall, able to receive a whole army together. The forts which remained in Mr. *Pont*'s time, who traced them all\*, were these; one at *Langtoun*, a mile east of *Falkirk*; one just at *Rouintree Burnhead*; one at *Wester-Gowden*, about *St. Helen's Chapel*; one at the *Croykill*; a very great one at the top of the *Banhill*; one at *Atchindevy*; one at *Kirkintilloch*, or *Kaerpencoloch*; one at *East-Calder*; one at *Hiltoun-Calder*; one at *Bulmudy*; one at *Simerstone*, and over *Kilwin* river, and *Careston*; one at *Atermynie*; one at *Balcastle*, over-against *Banhill*; one at *Kaellibe*, over-against *Croykill*; one at *Roch-hill*, over-against the *West-wood*; a large one at *Bankyir*, over-against *Casile-Cair*; one at *Dumbafe*. In the ruins of that at *Bankyir* was found a large iron shovel, or some instrument resembling it, so weighty that it could hardly be lifted by one man. At the same fort also were discovered several sepulchres, covered with large rough stones; and at *Dun-Chroe Chyr*, by *Mony-Abroch*, were formerly large buildings. The length of the wall was 36 Scots miles, beginning between *Queen's-ferry* and *Abercorn*; it ranged along west by the *Grange* and *Kiniel*, or *Innereving*; so on to *Falkirk*: from whence it proceeded directly to the forest of *Cumerald*: next, it ran to the great fort at the *Banhill*; where have been found several stones, some with figures cut upon them, and with inscriptions: from whence it went to the *Pal* of *Kirkintilloch*, the greatest fort of all; and so westward to *Dumbarton*, with a great ditch upon the north-side

\* See that gentleman's description, in Dr. *Gibson's* Translation of *Camden's Britannia*.

of the wall all along. It had also many square fortifications in form of *Roman* camps.

The *Lowlands* between the sea and high country are generally narrow. Near the coast are many little hills which overlook the sea, and discover towns at a distance, which renders the prospect very pleasant on that side; and there is something striking in the large rugged romantic mountains on the other.

But the towns which seem large and fair in the distant prospect, like almost every thing else, lose their beauty in proportion as they are approached; a mean-ness is soon discovered, which shews the condition of the inhabitants; all the outskirts, which increased the extent of them while they were remote, are found to be nothing more than the ruins of little houses, which have been deserted by the inhabitants; for when these houses begin to decay, they do not often repair them; but, taking out the timber, let the walls remain, and build anew upon another spot. The fishing-towns in particular are extremely disagreeable, as the haddocks and whittings, which hang upon lines to dry, along the sides of the houses, from one end to the other, fill the air with an intolerable stink. It does not however appear from this nuisance, that the inhabitants suffer in their health; for the children are more numerous than in the inland-towns, and, though they are half naked, yet they are fresh coloured, healthy, and strong.

From *Kilsyth*, we mounted the hills, black and frightful as they were, to find the road over the moors and mountains to *Stirling*; and, being directed by guides, we came to the river *Carron*. The channel of a river appeared indeed, and looked as if it had been cut out by art through horrid precipices, to mark out a course for the water; but yet not a drop was at that time to be seen. Great stones, square, and formed as if cut out by hand, of a prodigious size,

lay scattered in a confused manner in the very course of the river, which, as we were told, the fury of the waters, at other times, had hurried down from the mountains. If so, they must have been some ages upon their journey down the stream: for it is not probable, that a flood often comes with a force sufficient to move such stones as these, unless a great quantity of ice, as well as water, comes down upon them together. But, in all probability, they are not driven down by the force of the water at all, but are *Roman* monuments.

Here we passed another bridge of one arch, not quite so large as that we saw in *Galloway*, but very like it. It is finely built of free-stone; but the shores being flat, it rises so high, that it is not every head can bear to ride over it. But there was a necessity of building it with one arch only; for no piers in the middle of the channel could have borne the shock of the great stones, which sometimes come down this stream.

From hence, descending on the north-side, we had a view of the *Firth of Forth* on our right, and of the castle of *Stirling* on our left. In going to the latter, we passed the water of *Bannockburn*, famous in the *Scots* history for the great battle fought here between king *Robert de Bruce*, and the *English* army, commanded by king *Edward II.* in person; in which the *English* were utterly overthrown, and that with so terrible a slaughter, that though it was the greatest army that ever marched from *England* into *Scotland*, very few escaped, and the king with much difficulty saved himself by flight.

This place is also remarkable for the execrable murder of king *James III.* whose young son was by some discontented nobles worked up to this impious deed. But when his understanding ripened, he saw the action in its proper light, and was so greatly affected by

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it, that he did penance for it ever after, by constantly wearing an iron chain near his flesh.

*Stirling* was our next stage, an ancient town, and an important pass, which, together with *Dumbarton*, is the defence of the *Lowlands* against the *Highlands*; for, as one very properly said, *Dumbarton* is the lock of the *Highlands*, and *Stirling-castle* keeps the key. The town is situated exactly as *Edinburgh*, on the ridge of an hill, sloping down on both sides, and the street gradually ascending from the east to the castle, which is at the west-end. It is large and well-built; and, though it is ancient, yet the buildings are not unlike those of *Edinburgh*.

The church is also a very spacious building, but not collegiate. It stands in the upper part of the town, towards the end, is of good architecture, and adorned with a lofty tower. There was formerly a church, or rather a collegiate chapel, in the castle, and likewise a private chapel, or oratory, in the palace, for the royal family; but they have been long disused.

Joining to the church, on the top of the hill, is a very neat hospital for decayed merchants, after the manner of that at *Dundee*. It was founded by *James Cowen*, merchant, and very richly endowed. His statue, as big as life, is at the top of the gate, with an inscription from the 25th of *St. Matthew*, the 35th verse; and in the garden of this hospital is a pleasant bowling-green, for the use of the gentlemen and merchants.

The castle is not so very difficult of access as that at *Edinburgh*, but is esteemed equally strong; for the works are able to mount more cannon, and there is a battery that commands the bridge, which is of the utmost importance, and seems to have been the main end and purpose for which it was erected. The walls,

and all the outworks, are so firm, that they seem in as good condition as if they had been lately built.

I visited the castle, and went over the noble monuments of the amazing grandeur of the *Scottish* kings, that are crumbling into dust. Here is a fine palace built by king *James V.* and a parliament-house superior to that of *Westminster*.

The palace and royal apartments are all in decay, and likely to continue so. This is at present also the fate of the palaces of *Linlithgow*, *Falkland*, *Dunfermling*, and all the other royal houses in *Scotland*, *Holyrood-house* at *Edinburgh* excepted.

In the park adjoining to the castle were formerly large gardens. The figure of the walls and grass-plats is still plainly to be seen. From the top of the castle, is by far the finest view in *Scotland*: to the east is a vast plain, rich in corn, adorned with woods, and watered with the river *Forth*, whose meanders are, before it reaches the sea, so frequent and so large, as to form a multitude of most beautiful peninsulas; for in many parts the windings approximate so close as to leave only a little isthmus of a few yards. In this plain is an old abbey, a view of *Alloa*, *Clackmannan*, *Falkirk*, the *Firth of Forth*, - and the country as far as *Edinburgh*; on the north, the *Ochil* hills, and the moor where the battle of *Dumblain* was fought; to the west, the strait of *Menteith*, as fertile as the eastern plain, and terminated by the *Highland* mountains; among which the summit of *Ben-lomond* is very conspicuous.

The park here is large and walled about, as most of the parks in *Scotland* are; but there is little or no wood in it. The earls of *Mar*, of the name of *Erskine*, who claimed to be hereditary keepers of the king's children, and of this castle, had an house at the upper end of the town, very finely situated for prospect, but not for security. The ruins of this

house

house are still to be seen; from whence it appears to have been a noble fabric, and worthy of a lord of the first rank.

The bridge at *Stirling* has only four arches; but they are very large, and the channel widens considerably below it. At *Alloway* it is above a mile broad, and deep enough for ships of any burden; so that the *Glasgow* merchants are certainly in the right to settle warehouses there, and ship off their goods for the eastern countries.

There is a very considerable manufacture at *Stirling* for serges or shalloons, which they make and dye very well; nor has the *English* manufacture for shalloons broken in so much upon them, as it was apprehended it would. This manufacture is a great support to the poor people that are employed in it, who are thereby enabled to live very comfortably.

*Stirling* was one of the boundaries of the *Roman* empire in *Britain*, as appears by the inscription on a stone below the castle, towards the bridge, importing, that one of the wings of their army kept guard there. On the right of the town stood the noble abbey of *Cambuskenneth*. The river *Carron* is famous for some *Roman* monuments, particularly two little hills, called by the vulgar *Dunipace*, i. e. hills of peace; and, two miles lower, is a round edifice of stone, which, by the description, resembles what the *Romans* called the temple of *Terminus*. But *Buchanan* thinks, they were rather monuments of some great actions performed here.

From *Stirling* we went directly to *Linlithgow*, a large town, well-built, with a stately town-house, but most famous for the noble palace of the kings of *Scotland*, which is the least decayed of all the rest, that of *Holy-rood-house* excepted: for king *James VI.* required, or rather rebuilt it; and his two sons, prince *Henry*, and prince *Charles* (afterwards king of *England*)

had apartments here, which a traveller may easily distinguish by the different coats of arms, especially over those called the *Prince's Lodgings*.

This palace stands on a rising-ground, which runs into the lake, in form of an amphitheatre, and has a descent resembling terrace-walks. There are two towers at each corner of the court, with apartments, and a curious fountain in the middle, adorned with several fine statues, from whence the water rises to a good height. A noble park also belongs to it. This palace was indeed a truly magnificent building, but it is now in a deplorable situation, having sustained much damage from the soldiery, in the last rebellion. As there is no possibility of its being repaired, it is great pity such noble materials are not applied to some useful purpose.

The church of *St. Michael* makes a part of this building, and is a wing on the right-hand of the first court, as the proper offices make the left. The inner-court is very large and elegant for the taste of the times. In the middle of this is the large fountain I have mentioned, which still shews the remains of some good carving, and other ornaments.

Here king *James V.* restored the order of the knights of *St. Andrew*, and erected a throne and stalls for them in *St. Michael's* church, making it the chapel of the order. He was likewise the first who ordered the thistle to be added to the badge of the order; and the motto, viz. *Nemo me impune lacessit*, which is worn about it in the royal arms, was of his invention. This prince seems to have been very much honoured in the world; for he wore the badges of three orders besides his own; viz. That of the garter, conferred upon him by his uncle, the king of *England*; that of the golden-fleece, by the emperor, then king of *Spain*; that of *St. Michael*, by the king of *France*.

In



In his time the green ribband was worn by the knights companions of this order; but king *James VII.* changed it to the blue, like that of the knights of the garter in *England*. After the Union, queen *Anne*, the sovereign of both, to distinguish them, restored the green ribband, and intended to have called a chapter of the order, to bring it once more to its full lustre; but was prevented by death.

In this town, the earl of *Murray*, lord regent, was murdered with a musquet-bullet, shot by one *Hamilton*, in a manner the most deliberate that history furnishes an instance of: he had the good fortune to escape to *France*; and though undoubtedly an assassin on this occasion, was otherwise a man of honour, as appears from his challenging a gentleman who offered him a large sum to take off a person with whom he had a dispute. The earl was a natural son of king *James V.* and, aspiring to the crown, joined with the reformers, having first got the revenues of the convents of *St. Andrews*, and *Pittenween*, whereof he was abbot, or prior, secured to him and his heirs. His ambition and intrigues were the chief cause of almost all the troubles of queen *Mary's* reign.

At *Linlithgow* is a great linen manufacture, as there is at *Glasgow*; and the water of the lake here is esteemed so extraordinary for bleaching or whitening of linen cloths, that a vast deal of it is brought hither from other parts of the country for that purpose. This lake is situate on the north-side of the town, and between it and the palace are terrace-walks, which are so beautiful, that a more delightful place can scarce be seen.

*Forfichen*, formerly the residence of the knights of *Malta*, is two miles south-west from *Linlithgow*.

Near a place called *Kips*, south from this town, is an ancient chapel or altar of great unpolished stones, leaning so as to support one another. The learned

think them to be a temple of *Terminus* built by the *Romans*; and others still there are, who conjecture them to be a temple of the *Celts* or *Druids*. Near this chapel or altar is a circle of great stones, and on two adjacent hills are the remains of old camps, with great heaps of stones, and ancient graves, which some think *Roman* works.

From *Linlithgow* we turned to the right, and following the *Clyde* upwards, from a little above *Hamilton*, where we were before, we came into the shire of *Clydsdale*. This tract has some remains of *Roman* antiquity; for, from *Errick-stone* to *Mauls Mitre*, which borders upon the shire of *Renfrew*, are evident footsteps of a *Roman* causeway for several miles together; and there is a tradition, that another *Roman* street went from *Lanerk* to the *Roman* camp near *Falkirk*.

*Lanerk* is the capital of this county, but is no extraordinary town; its bridge, however, is very remarkable.

A little below this town the river *Douglas* falls into the *Clyde*, and gives the name of *Douglasdale* to the lands near it. In a vale near this river stood a very old castle, which had been the paternal seat of the great family of *Douglas* for above a thousand years; but, by the frequent additions to the building, it was become such a wild irregular mass, that, at a distance, it seemed rather like a town than a single fabric, though the apartments were very noble. On the 11th of *December*, 1758, this ancient castle was destroyed by an accidental fire.

The complete history of this family of *Douglas* would take up a volume by itself, as it actually has in a late work, where the heroes of the name are fully set forth, and all the illustrious actions they have been concerned in. I shall only observe, that there are no less than seven branches of this family in the peerage; namely, the late duke of *Douglas*, who was  
chief

chief of the name, the duke of *Queensberry* and *Dower*, the earls of *Morton*, *Dumbarton*, *March*, and the lords *Mordington* and *Forfar*, the latter of whom was unhappily killed at the fight near *Dumblain*, against the Pretender.

The country abounds with coals, peat, and limestone; but what turns to the greatest profit, are the lead-mines belonging to the earl of *Hopton*.

Not far from *Lanerk* are the celebrated falls of the *Clyde*: the most distant are about half an hour's ride, at a place called *Cory-Lin*, and are seen to most advantage from a ruinous pavillion in a gentleman's garden, placed in a lofty situation. The cataract is full in view, seen over the tops of trees and bushes, precipitating itself, for an amazing way, from rock to rock, with short interruptions, forming a rude slope of furious foam. The sides are bounded by vast rocks, clothed on their tops with trees. On the summit and very verge of one is a ruined tower, and in front a wood, overtopped by a verdant hill.

A path conducts the traveller down to the beginning of the fall, into which projects a high rock, in floods insulated by the waters, and from the top is a tremendous view of the furious stream. In the clefts of this savage retreat, the brave *Wallace* is said to have concealed himself, meditating revenge for his injured country.

On regaining the top, the walk is formed near the verge of the rocks, which on both sides are perfectly mural and equidistant, except where they overhang. The river is pent up between them at a distance far beneath, not running, but rather sliding along a stoney bottom sloping the whole way. The summits of the rock are wooded, the sides smooth and naked, the strata narrow and regular, forming a stupendous natural masonry. After a walk of above half a mile on the edge of this great chasm, on a sudden appears the

the great and bold fall of *Boniton*, in a foaming sheet, and a far extending mist arises from the surface. Above that is a second great fall; two less succeed. Beyond them the river widens, grows more tranquil, and is seen for a considerable way, bounded on one side by wooded banks, and on the other by rich and swelling fields.

After viewing these tremendous cataracts, we went westward into the shire of *Peebles*. The first town we came to of any note was *Peebles*, which stands on the bank of the *Tweed*, and is the capital of the county. The town is small, and but indifferently built or inhabited: yet there are some good houses in it. It was formerly remarkable for three churches, three gates, three streets, and three bridges, of which that over *Tweed* has five arches.

The country hereabouts is very hilly; but those hills are covered with sheep, which are a principal part of the estates of the gentry. A large quantity of them are sent into *England*, to the great damage of the poor, who are thereby deprived of the advantage of manufacturing their wool. They used formerly to export it to *France*; but, by the act of Union, the exportation of it was prohibited, upon the severest penalties.

The county of *Tweeddale* has two remarkable lakes in it; the one, called *West-water Lake*, which abounds with eels and other fish. The other is *Lochgenen Lake*, upon *Genen-hill*, which falls into *Annandale* from a precipice of 250 feet high, where many times the fish are killed by the fall of the water.

The *Frasers* were ancestors by marriage to the family of *Tweeddale*; and of this name was that great captain, who contributed so much to the victory which the *Scots* obtained in one day over three *English* armies at *Roslin*, 1301; during *Wallace's* administration.

*Merlin*

# S C O T L A N D. 135

*Merlin* is said to be buried in the church-yard of *Drumelzier*, in this county; and, according to an old prophecy, "That the kingdoms should be united, when *Tweed* and *Pausel* met at his grave," they say, that it happened so by an inundation, when king *James VI.* came to the crown of *England*, anno 1603, the only time, before or since, it ever did so.

Some remains of antiquity are visible in this county. The place called *Randal's Trench* seems to have been a Roman camp, and a causeway leads from it half a mile together to the town of *Lyns*.

In this county are two very lively monuments of the vanity of human glory. The first is the foundation of a prodigious building (more like a royal palace, than the seat of a private nobleman) begun by the earl of *Morton*, whose head was no sooner cut off, than his design perished; for it has never since been carried on.

The other is the palace of *Traquair*, built and finished by the late earl of *Traquair*, for some years lord high chancellor of *Scotland*, and a person in the highest posts both of honour and profit in the kingdom, who yet lost all by the fatality of the times; for, growing into universal dislike by his conduct under *Charles I.* he sunk into the most abject condition of human life, even to want bread, and to take alms; and died in those miserable circumstances about a year before the Restoration. The house is noble, the design great, and well finished; but the owner was soon turned out of it by his enemies, who thought the sparing of his life an act of great mercy.

Bishop *Burnet* represents this earl as a very mean-spirited man, and one that suffered himself to be made so vile a tool in other people's mischiefs, that he fell unpitied. It is remarkable, that he was despised even by the party which he had served, and but too faithfully adhered to.

Here

Here we saw the ruins of the once famous abbey of *Melrose*, the greatness of which may be a little guessed at by the vast extent of its remains. One may still distinguish many noble parts of the monastery, particularly the great church or chapel, as large as some cathedrals, the choir of which is visible, and 140 feet in length, besides what may have been pulled down at the east-end. By the thickness of the foundations, there must have been a large and strong tower, or steeple, in the centre of the church. There are likewise several fragments of the house itself: and the court, and other buildings, are so visible, that it is easy to know it was a most magnificent place in its day.

The country south-east from *Tweeddale* is called *Tiviotdale*, or the shire of *Roxburgh*: in which are some footsteps of *Roman* encampments; and a military way runs from *Hounam* to *Tweed*, called the *Roman Causeway*, and, vulgarly, the *Rugged Causeway*.

The town and castle of *Roxburgh* are both now demolished. They were famous in the history of both nations, during their mutual wars, when the town was frequently taken and retaken, and in the siege of which king *James II.* of *Scotland* was killed by the bursting of a gun.

*Jedburgh* is a royal burgh, on the river *Jed*. It was one of those towns that suffered in the rebellion in 1715.

The duke of *Roxburgh* has a great estate. His grace's house, called *Fleurs*, has been finely embellished of late years, and is a noble seat; and the country about it, which was formerly wild and rugged, is now greatly improved and cultivated; and fine plantations of trees and vistas surround the house.

From hence we came to *Kelfo*, an handsome market-town upon the bank of the *Tweed*, which, being so near the *English* border, and having one of the great roads from *Edinburgh* to *Newcastle* lying through

it (which is a nearer way by far than by that through *Berwick*) is a considerable thoroughfare to *England*.

Here are the ruins of an ancient monastery, founded by king *David*, for the *Cistercian* monks, an order instituted about the year 1000 in *Burgundy*. It has been very large, and part of it now serves for the parish church.

The country about *Kelso* is very pleasant and fruitful, on both sides the *Tweed*. The river here does not part *England* from *Scotland*; but you are upon *Scots* ground for four miles, or thereabouts, on the south-side of the *Tweed*; and, the farther west, the more the *Tweed* lies within the limits of the country.

From *Kelso* we went north, where we passed through *Lauderdale*, a long valley on both sides of the little river *Lauder*, from whence the family of *Maitland*, first earls, then dukes, and now earls again, took their title.

The country is good here, and fenced with hills on both sides. The river *Lauder* runs through it, keeping its course due north.

The town of *Lauder* is a royal burgh, the seat of the commissariat; and very pleasantly situated. It is remarkable for the execution done upon the minions of king *James III.* by the *Scots* nobility, who, headed by the earl of *Angus*, took them out of the court, and hanged them over *Lauder-bridge*. The seat of the noble family of *Maitland*, earls of *Lauderdale*, is called *Lauderfort*: it is a stately house, about the middle of the valley, on the river, but not large.

We kept the great road over an high ridge of mountains, from whence we had a plain view of *Mid-Lothian*. One of these mountains is called *Soutra-hill*, and belongs to a branch of the family of *Maitland*, the elder brother of which house was a person of great merit, and raised himself by his personal accomplishments to the highest posts in the army.

I could



I could not pass this way to *Edinburgh* without going off a little to the right, to see two very fine seats. One of them is an old abbey, belonging to the marquis of *Lothian*, (of the ancient name of *Ker*) a younger branch of the house of *Roxburgh*, at *Newbottle*; whose predecessor, *Mark Ker*, being abbot of it, turned Protestant, and got it settled on him, and his heirs. It is an old building, but finely situated among the most agreeable walks and rows of trees, all full grown; and contains one of the best chosen collections of pictures, statues, and busts, in *Scotland*.

In the wood adjacent to this seat are some subterraneous apartments, and passages cut out of the live rock. A few miles distance from thence, near *Hawthorn Den*, the residence of the celebrated poet *Drummond*, are, as I was informed, others of the same nature, but of greater extent, which *Dr. Stukeley* calls a *Pictish* castle. These places, in fact, were excavated by the ancient inhabitants of the country, either as receptacles for their provision, or for retreats for themselves and families, in time of war.

Two or three miles distant from *Newbottle* is *Dalkeith*, a small town adjoining to *Dalkeith House*, the seat of the duke of *Buccleugh*, originally the property of the *Douglasses*, and was, when in form of a castle, of great strength; and, during the time of the regent *Morton's* retreat, was called the *Lion's Den*. The portraits here are very good, and well worth observation.

I shall conclude this letter with the following inscription on the tomb-stone of one *Margaret Scott*, who died in the town of *Dalkeith*, *February 9, 1738*.

Stop, passenger, until my life you read:  
The living may get knowledge by the dead.  
Five times five years I liv'd a virgin's life:  
Ten times five years I was a virtuous wife:

Ten

Ten times five years I liv'd a widow chaste ;  
 Now, weary'd of this mortal life, I rest.  
 Between my cradle and my grave have been  
 Eight mighty kings of *Scotland*, and a queen.  
 Four times five years the commonwealth I saw ;  
 Ten times the subjects rose against the law.  
 Twice did I see old prelacy pull'd down ;  
 And twice the cloak was humbled by the gown.  
 An end of *Stuart's* race I saw : nay, more !  
 My native country sold for *English* ore.  
 Such desolations in my life have been,  
 I have an end of all perfection seen.

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## L E T T E R IV.

*Containing a DESCRIPTION of the ancient  
 Caledonia, or northern Part of Scotland ;  
 and particularly of the Shires and Towns of  
 Fife, St. Andrew's, Perth, Dumblain, Al-  
 loway, Culrofs, Scone, Angus, Dundee,  
 Montrose, Aberdeen, Buchan, Murray, El-  
 gin, Inverness, and the Highlands, &c.*

I AM now to enter the true and real *Caledonia* ; for  
 that part of the country on the north of the *Firth*  
 of *Forth* is alone called by that name, and was an-  
 ciently known by no other.

I crossed the river at *Queensferry*, seven miles west  
 of *Edinburgh*, into the shire of *Fife* ; and, as the most  
 considerable places in this county are on the sea-side,  
 or near it, I directed my journey east along the coast.  
 The first place we came to was the burgh of *Inner-  
 keithin*,

*Keithin*, an ancient walled town, with a spacious harbour opening from the east into the river, which has been lately much neglected for want of trade. The town, however, is large, and still populous.

I cannot pass over a tragical story, which happened in this town in the reign of the late queen *Anne*. The master of *Burleigh* (so the eldest son of a lord or viscount is called, while the father is living) fell in love with a young woman in his father's family; but could not prevail with her either to marry him, or to sacrifice her virtue to him; which being known, she was sent away, and he persuaded to travel. However, before his departure, he declared she should be his wife at his return; and if any one else should marry her in his absence, he would murder him. This passed without much notice, and the young woman was soon after married to a schoolmaster in this town.

The gentleman returned, and understanding who was her husband, went to his house at noon-day, pulled out a pistol, and shot him dead on the spot, making his escape unmolested.

But a proclamation being afterwards issued, with a reward of 200*l* for apprehending him, he was at last taken, and tried at *Edinburgh*, by the lords of the judiciary, and condemned to have his head cut off. Great intercession was made to the queen for his pardon; which proving ineffectual, he found means to make his escape out of the *Tolbooth* of *Edinburgh*, disguised in his sister's cloaths, the night before he was to have been executed.

After that, he appeared in the rebellion of 1715, and was in the battle of *Dumblain* or *Sheriffmuir*; but again escaped with his life, though his estate, which was but small, was forfeited among the rest.

He lived many years after, upon a small allowance from his sisters, principally in *England*. He became

became a very grave, sober man, and detested the crime he had been guilty of.

Near *Innerkeithin*, a little within the land, stands the ancient town of *Dunfermling*, which is now in a very ruinous state. Here is a decayed monastery, which before the Reformation was very large, but then demolished, except a part, which was turned into a parochial church; and even that is now decayed, and with it the monuments of several kings and queens of *Scotland*; particularly that of *Malcolm III.* who founded the monastery.

Here also is a decayed court, or royal palace, of the kings of *Scotland*, but by whom built is uncertain. Almost all king *James* the sixth's children were born in it, particularly king *Charles I.* and the princess *Elizabeth*, afterwards queen of *Bohemia*; his queen made this place her particular residence, and had it settled upon her by way of jointure. Here she built herself an apartment, over the arch of the great gate, for her particular retirement, having a gallery reaching from it to the royal lodgings. All is now ruinous.

The church has still a venerable face, and at a distance seems a mighty pile. The building being once vastly large. What is left appears too heavy for the present dimensions.

The people have a manufacture of linen for their support, the diaper and the better sort of linen trade being carried on here, and in the neighbouring towns, with more hands than ordinary. The marquis of *Tweeddale* has a great estate in these parts, and is hereditary chamberlain or keeper of the royal house.

The rocking-stone, near *Balvaird* in *Fife*, was a remarkable curiosity. It was broken by *Oliver Cromwell's* soldiers, and then it was discovered, that its motion was performed by an egg-shaped exuberance in the middle of the under surface of the upper stone, which was inserted in a cavity in the surface of the

lower stone. As the lower stone was flat, the upper was globular; and not only a just proportion in the motion was calculated from the weight of the stone, and the wideness of the cavity, as well as the oval figure of the inserted prominence; but the vast bulk of the upper stone absolutely concealed the mechanism of the motion; and, the better still to impose on the vulgar, there were two or three surrounding flat stones, though that only in the middle was concerned in the feat. By this pretended miracle they condemned of perjury, or acquitted, as their interest or affection led them; and often brought criminals to confess what could be no other way extorted from them.

From hence turning east are many seats of private gentlemen, and some of noblemen, particularly one belonging to the earl of *Morton* at *Aberdour*, which fronts the *Forth* to the south; and the grounds belonging to it reach down to the shore; and another of the earl of *Murray* at *Donebrissel*.

From this part of the *Forth*, to the mouth of *Inverkeithin* harbour, is a very good road for ships, the water being deep, and the ground good; but the western part, which they call *St. Margaret's Bay*, is a steep shore, and rocky, there being twenty fathom water within a ship's length of the rocks. So that if a south-east wind blows hard, it may be dangerous riding in it; but this wind blows so seldom, that the ships often venture it.

He that will view the county of *Fife*, which is wedged in by the *Forth* and the *Tay*, and shoots out far into the east, must go round the coast; and yet there are six places of note in the middle of the county, which are superior to all the rest, and must not be omitted: *Kinross*, *Leithy*, *Falkland*, *Melnil*, *Balgony*, and *Cowpar*; the last a town, the others great houses; and one, viz. *Falkland*, a royal palace, and

and once the most in request of all the royal houses in Scotland.

The two sides that still stand in the inner square, shew a beautiful piece of architecture. It consists of two stories, with rows of round marble pillars of the *Corinthian* order, set in sockets of stone between every window; on each side of the window, a bust in basso-relievo of the emperors and empresses, and at the top of each pillar a statue as big as the life. There are twenty-two busts and twelve pillars still remaining. The other two parts of the quadrangle were burnt down by *Oliver Cromwell's* army. You enter this palace by two stately towers, and on the right is a chapel, still well preserved, with statues as big as the life in the niches on the outside. Here were spacious gardens, with a park, well planted with oak, and stocked with deer, pale round for eight miles; but the oaks were all cut down by *Cromwell*, to build his citadel at *Perth*, and the barracks; the park he ploughed up, and only here and there some of the pales are left.

The town of *Falkland* is clean, not unlike *Woodstock* in *Oxfordshire*. It is a borough-corporate, of which the king is always provost; and they chuse aldermen out of their own council. It is situated on the north-east foot of *Lomond* hill, which is an *English* mile to the top, covered with the finest pasturage for sheep, from whence is a very extensive prospect.

An *English* reader will be surprised to hear of such numbers of palaces; but, however mean our thoughts may be of the *Scotch* court in ancient times, their kings had more fine palaces than most princes in *Europe*; for in the time of king *James IV.* they had, all in good repair, and in use, the several royal palaces of *Holy-rood-house*, and the castle at *Edinburgh*, the royal palace in the castle at *Stirling*, *Linlithgow*, *Dunfermling*, *Falkland*, *Scone*, the castles of *Dunbarton*, *Blackness*, and *Inverness*.

I omit lesser seats and hunting houses, of which king *James V.* had several; and the several palaces of earl *Morton*, and others, which were forfeited into the king's hands.

The south coast of the county of *Fife* abounds with towns; and the following thirteen are royal burghs; viz. *Innerkeithin*, *Bruntisland*, *Kinghorn*, *Kirkaldy*, *Dysart*, *Pittenweem*, *Anstruther Wester*, *Anstruther Easter*, *Kilrinny*, *Craib*, *St. Andrews*, all on the coast; *Dunfermling* and *Cowpar*, in the midst of the county. It contains also these other towns of note, viz. *Toryburn*, *Aberdour*, the two *Wemyss's*, *Lewinsmouth*, *Ely*, *St. Manan's*, and *Newburgh on the Tay*: and it has in it four presbyteries; viz. at *Cowpar*, *St. Andrews*, *Kirkaldy*, and *Dunfermling*.

The shire itself takes its name from *Fysus*, surname *Duffus*, to whom it was granted by king *Kenneth II.* for his valour against the *Picts*, about the year 840. His posterity were first called *Thanes of Fife*, and afterwards earls, by *Malcolm H.* about the year 1057, and endowed with greater privileges than any other earls of the kingdom, because of their extraordinary services; a famous monument of which was that called *Clan Macduff's Cross*, on the public road to *Abernethy*, to which it any within the ninth degree to the great *Macduff*, who was the chief instrument of subduing the tyrant *Macbeth*, should have recourse in case of manslaughter, he was to be pardoned on paying a small number of cattle. This monument had an inscription importing those privileges, now worn out; and was in such antiquated terms, mixed with *Macaronic* or half *Latin* words, that few men now living would have been able to make it out.

From this *Macduff*, the families of *Douglas*, *Wemyss*, and the clan *Chattan*, are said to be descended. The earls of *Rothies* is hereditary sheriff of *Fife*.

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VOL. IV



Having seen *Aberdour*, I took a turn, at a friend's invitation, to *Lesly*; but by the way stopt at *Kinross*, where we had a view of two things worth noting; first, the famous lake or lough, called *Lough Leven*, in an island of which stands the castle, where queen *Mary*, commonly known in *England* by the name of queen of *Scots*, was confined by the then reformers, being first compelled to quit her favourite *Bothwell*, and afterwards her crown.

The lough itself is worth seeing; it is very large, being above ten miles in circumference, in some places deep, and famous for fish. Formerly it had good salmon, but now chiefly trouts, perch, pikes, &c. Out of it flows the river *Leven*, which runs from thence to *Lesly*.

At the west-end of the lake (the gardens reaching down to the water's edge) stands the most beautiful and regular piece of architecture (for a private gentleman's seat) in *Scotland*; I mean the house of *Kinross*, belonging to Sir *John Hope Bruce*, Bart. The town, which has a very good market, and a street tolerably well built, lies at a little distance from the house, so as not to obtrude upon its privacy, and yet so as to be ready to wait upon its call. It is all beauty; the stone is white and fine, the order regular, the contrivance elegant, the workmanship exquisite.

Sir *William Bruce*, the surveyor-general of the works, the *Wren* of *North Britain*, was the founder, as well as architect of this house. That gentleman has left many noble monuments of his admirable skill and taste in those parts; such as the palace of *Holyrood* at *Edinburgh*; the house of *Rothsay*, and this at *Kinross*, besides several others.

The situation of this house of *Kinross* would be disapproved by some for its being so very near the water: so much that sometimes, when the lake is swelled with winter rains and melted snows, it reaches to the

very gardens; but as the country round is dry, free from stagnated bogs, and unhealthy marshes, this is of very little inconvenience, if any. Sir *William* planted numbers of fir-trees upon the land round his house, which the next possessor, Sir *John Hope Bruce*, was as careful to improve as his grandfather was to plant. Posterity will find the advantage of this taste, which, if it spreads as it has begun, will in time make *Scotland* a second *Norway* for fir; for the *Lowlands*, as well as the *Highlands*, will be overspread with timber.

From *Kinross* I came to *Lesly*, where I had a full view of the palace of the earl of *Rothies*, built in the reign of king *Charles II.* by the said Sir *William Bruce*.

Here it was that our king *James II.* when duke of *York*, lodged, most part of the time, when he was obliged by his brother to retire into *Scotland*; and his apartments are still called the duke of *York's* lodgings.

The magnificence of the inside of this house is unusually great; but what is very particular, is the long gallery, which is the full length of one side of the building, and is filled with paintings, but especially (as that is at *Drumlanrig*) of the great ancestors of the house of *Rothies* or *Lesly*, full lengths, and in their robes of office.

The rooms of state at *Kinross* are well supplied with valuable pictures, many of which are of princes, &c. but most, if not all the full lengths in this gallery of *Rothies*, are of the family, and the immediate ancestors of the present earl, most of them having been peers, and possessed of the greatest places of trust in *Scotland*, from the year 1320, to 1725; so that we may imagine there may well be enough to furnish the gallery.

Though the house is magnificent, I cannot say the situation of it is so advantageous as that of some other seats; for it has no extraordinary prospect from the  
gran

grand tower, though it stands on the banks of the *Leven*, just where another small river joins it.

The park on the south-side is very beautiful, six miles in circumference, walled round, and diversified with little woods of fir-trees, which have vistas reaching through them up to the house. The gardens are at the east-end of the house, well designed and planted, extending to the angle where the two rivers meet; so that they are watered on the north and east-side, and on the south are parted with a wall from the park, the west-end of them beginning from the house.

The town of *Lesly* (seated at a small distance west from the house, or a little north-west) has a good market, but is, in no other respect, considerable. The house aforesaid is the principal glory of the place.

From *Lesly* we turned south to the coast, and came to *Bruntisland*, situated in the middle of the north-side of the river *Forth*, just opposite to *Leith*; so that we have from hence a fine prospect as well of the road of *Leith*, as of the city and castle of *Edinburgh*. Here is a very commodious harbour, which has no bar, but enters, as if it had been made by hand, into the centre of the town; so that the ships lie with their broadsides to the very houses; and it is the common port of safety to all ships that happen to be forced up the *Forth* by storms, or contrary winds: and ships trading on the coast frequently winter here. The water is commonly 18, and, at spring-tides 26 feet deep within the harbour; so that it is capable of receiving and careening the largest men of war. The town is adorned also with a beautiful church, and has a large town-house and goal.

Here is a manufacture of linen, as there is upon all the coast of *Fife*, and especially for green-cloth, as it is called, which has been several years in great demand in *England*, for printing or painting, in the room of calicoes, which are prohibited there.

Next to *Bruntisland*, upon the same coast, is *Kinghorn*, noted for its thread manufacture, which the women chiefly carry on: the men being generally seamen upon all this coast, as high as the *Queen's-ferry*.

Great numbers of porpoises are seen almost constantly in this *Firth*, which the men make a practice of shooting, and then bring on shore, and boil their fat into train-oil, as they do that of whales, and several other great fish, which they sometimes meet with thereabouts. But the *Firth* affords a much more regular fishing-trade lower down; of which in its place.

The ferry from *Leith* to the shore of *Fife* is fixed in *Kinghorn*, which is of considerable advantage to it; though sometimes the boats, by stress of weather, are driven into *Bruntisland*.

East of this town is *Kirkcaldy*, a larger, more populous, and better-built town, than the other, and, indeed, than any on this coast. It consists chiefly of one street, running along the shore from east to west a full mile, very well built. It has some considerable merchants in it, in the most extensive sense of the word, besides others that deal largely in corn, exporting great quantities of it both to *England* and *Holland*. Others again trade in linen to *England*, who in return bring back all needful supplies of foreign manufactures.

Here are several coal-pits, not only in the neighbourhood, but even close to the very sea, at the west-end of the town, and where, one would think, the tide should make it impossible to work them. At the east-end of the town is a convenient yard for building and repairing of ships; and, farther on, several salt-pans, for boiling and making salt.

*Dysert* boasts of being a royal burgh; but, notwithstanding, it is a very decaying corporation.

We came next to a village called the *Wester-Wemyss*, belonging to the earl of *Wemyss*, whose house stands little farther east, on the top of an high cliff, with its front

looking

looking down upon the sea; from whence it really appears with an air of magnificence, as commanding the prospect of the *Firth*, and the shore. The armour of the great *Macduff*, ancestor of this noble family, are preserved here, and always shewn to strangers. At the west-end of this cliff is a small plain, once a bowling-green, where the late earl, being admiral, had some small field pieces planted, to answer salutes. Behind the house is a small and irregular court-yard, with two wings of building, being offices to the house on one side, and stables on the other. Gardens there are none, only a large well-planted orchard, between which and the house, the road goes on to *Easter-Wemys*.

From thence you come to another village, called *Buckhaven*, inhabited by fishermen, who are employed wholly in catching fresh fish every day in the *Forth*, and carrying them to *Leith* and *Edinburgh* markets. The buildings are but a miserable row of cottages; yet there is scarce a poor man it.

Here we saw the shore of the sea covered with shrimps, like a thin snow; and as you rode among them, they would rise like a kind of dust, and hop like grasshoppers, being scared by the footing of the horse.

Beyond this is the *Ely*, a little town, but a very safe and good harbour, firmly built of stone, almost like the *Cobb* at *Lime*, though not projecting into the sea so much as that. It stands a little on the west-side of the mouth of the *Leven*; the salmon of which river are esteemed the best in this part of *Scotland*.

To this town the earl of *Wemys* brings his coal, which he digs about two miles off, on the banks of the river *Leven*; as also what salt he can make. The coal-works are greatly prejudiced by the breaking in of the water, notwithstanding the immense charges they have been at to prevent that inconvenience.

The people, who work in the coal mines in this country, partly from their poverty and hard labour, and partly from the black hue which they get from the coal, make a frightful appearance.

From hence we have several small towns on the coast, as *Criel* or *Crail*, *Anstruther* or *Anster*, as it is usually called, also the port of *Pittenweem*; these are all royal burghs.

*Pittenweem* is a port and harbour very conveniently situated near the mouth of the *Forth*, in the shire of *Fife*; and great quantities of herring, cod, and other fish, are taken here.

Over-against this shore, and in the mouth of the *Forth*, opposite to the isle of the *Bass*, lies the isle of *May*, known to mariners by a light-house upon it. The only constant inhabitant is said to be the man maintained there by the government to take care of the fire in the light-house. It was famous in former times for barren women going to *St. Adrian's* shrine there.

Here the *French* fleet lay with some assurance, with the Pretender on board, in 1708, when the *English* squadron approaching, the four o'clock gun gave the alarm; upon which they immediately weighed, got under sail, and made the best of their way, the *English* in vain pursuing them.

The shore of the *Firth* ends here, and the *Æstuarium* or mouth opening, the land of *Fife* falls off to the north, making a promontory of land which the seamen call *Fifenefs*, looking east on the *German Ocean*; after which the coast trends away north, and the first town you come to is *St. Andrew's*, an ancient and once flourishing city, the metropolis of all *Scotland*, the seat of the first university, and, before the Revolution, an archbishop's see. At this time it is a most august monument of the splendor of the *Scots* episcopal

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episcopal church in former times, and a most awful heap of ruins.

Full in front, at the bottom of a long descent, appears the city, placed at the extremity of a plain at the water's edge. Its numerous towers and spires give it an air of vast magnificence, and serve to raise the expectation of strangers to the highest pitch. On entering the west port, a well-built street, strait, and of a vast length and breadth, appears; but so grass-grown, and such a dreary solitude lay before us, that it formed the perfect idea of having been laid waste by the pestilence.

On a farther advance, the towers and spires, which at a distance afforded such an appearance of grandeur, on the near view shewed themselves to be awful remains of the magnificent, the pious works of past generations. A foreigner, ignorant of the history of this country, would equally enquire, what calamity has this city undergone? Has it suffered a bombardment from some barbarous enemy, or has it not, like *Lisbon*, felt the more inevitable fury of a convulsive earthquake? But how great is the horror on reflecting, that this destruction was owing to the more barbarous zeal of a minister, who, by his discourses, first inflamed, and then permitted a furious crowd to overthrow edifices, dedicated to that very Being, he pretended to honour by their ruin! The cathedral was the labour of an hundred and sixty years, a building that did honour to the country; yet in *June 1559*, *John Knox* effected its demolition in a single day.

The town of old consisted of four large streets lying from east to west, almost parallel to one another. The northernmost of the four, called *Swallow-street*, though formerly the principal, is now totally ruined, not so much as one house remaining. The other three by their regularity do not seem to have been a fortuitous concourse of houses, as most of the other



towns of this country do; all of them terminating eastward at the cathedral, which look upon each other, and seem to lament their decaying condition. For though the town was heretofore about two miles in circumference, there remain now hardly 1000 houses; and of those near 200 are become ruinous, and not habitable. The number of inhabitants still amounts to above 4000; but many of them have nothing to do, there being neither trade nor manufactures in the place; though at the same time it has an harbour, but capable of receiving only small vessels. Near the town is plenty of free-stone, of which all the houses are built.

Before the Reformation, this city was crouded both on account of trade and religion, pilgrims coming hither in great numbers to visit the relics of *St. Andrew*, said to be brought over by *St. Regulus*, about the end of the fourth century, from *Patras* in *Greece*, where that apostle suffered martyrdom. Here were three religious houses, a *Franciscan*, *Dominican*, and *Augustine* priory, the last founded by *Robert* bishop of *St. Andrew's*, who died 1139, and was established upon some of the revenues formerly belonging to the ancient *Culdees* of this place. *James Stuart*, afterwards earl of *Murray*, and regent of *Scotland*, was, in his younger days, prior of it. This monastery was more like the magnificent palace of a prince, than a convent of monks professing poverty, as appears still by its ruins, and particularly by the wall that encompassed it of fine hewn stone, with many battlements and turrets.

Here is now only one parish-church, that of the *Holy Trinity*, remaining; but there are two others, which are rather chapels, one at *St. Salvator's* college; of which, however, no use is made, it having no endowment, and the provost of that college being often a layman, even in a Presbyterian sense. The other is the chapel belonging to *St. Leonard's* college, the provost whereof must be a minister.

The

The church of the *Holy Trinity* is an ancient and stately edifice, built with fine free-stone, in form of a cross, and has at the west-end an handsome spire in good repair. In it is a fine monument of archbishop *Sharpe*, who was assassinated upon a moor, as he was coming home in his coach. It was erected by the archbishop's son, Sir *William Sharpe*, Bart. who, to secure it from the fate he feared it might be liable to, mortified 6000 marks to the city of *St. Andrew's*, to keep it in constant repair: which has had its intended effect; for the magistrates are very careful of it, and would be very severe upon any one who should attempt to deface it.

On the north side of the town was the old castle, of which now nothing is remaining but the walls, built by *Roger* bishop of *St. Andrew's*, who died 1202, being the second son of *Robert de Bellomont*, earl of *Leicester*, and chancellor of *Scotland*. It was repaired by cardinal *Bethune*, and archbishop *Hamilton*; the former of which procured *George Wishart* to be burnt here in the parade, while from his window he glutted his eyes with so horrid a spectacle; but was himself afterwards assassinated, 1546, in the same place; to revenge whose death, the queen regent permitted it to be attacked by the *French*, from whom it suffered greatly. But at the Reformation it suffered more, and its ruin has been completed since the Revolution.

To the east of the castle are the ruins of the stately cathedral, founded by bishop *Arnold*, who died 1163, and finished by bishop *Lambertoun*, who died 1328. It was in length from east to west 370 feet, and the cross from south to north 180; its breadth 65, and its height 100 feet; though some draw another kind of ichnography, and make it seven feet longer, and two broader, than *St. Peter's* at *Rome*; and for the height, as well as the beauty of its pillars, and the symmetry

and proportion of the whole it was one of the best *Gothic* structures in the world.

Near the ruins of the cathedral, are still remaining the walls of the most ancient chapel of *St. Rule*, with the great square spire still very entire. It is in height 105 feet, and made of such large and durable stones, that though it was built so many ages ago, yet so little has it suffered by the injuries of the weather, that a small sum would save it from falling for many ages to come; and as this probably is one of the most ancient monuments of Christianity in *Great Britain*, it is pity it should go to ruin for want of a suitable reparation.

This city is famous particularly for its university, consisting of three colleges, founded by *Henry Wardlaw*, bishop of *St. Andrew's*, in the year 1412. It obtained very ample privileges and immunities from pope *Benedict XIII.* which were afterwards confirmed to them by king *James I.* of *Scotland*, and by several other succeeding kings. During episcopacy, the archbishops were chancellors of it. The rector is chosen yearly, and by the statutes ought to be one of the principals of the three colleges here, called *St. Salvatore's*, *St. Leonard's*, and the *New College*.

*St. Salvatore's* college was founded by *James Kennedy*, bishop of *St. Andrew's*, anno 1448, who erected the edifice, furnished it with costly ornaments, and endowed it with sufficient revenues for a doctor, a bachelor, and a licentiate of divinity, four professors of philosophy, and eight poor scholars. The earl of *Cassils* settled a maintenance for a professor of philosophy. It has a good library, founded by *Dr. Sheen*. The edifice itself is a stately pile of hewn stone, has a large vaulted chapel covered with free-stone, and over it is a very lofty spire. The common hall and schools are vastly large; and the cloisters and private lodgings for masters and scholars have been very magnificent and convenient;

venient; but the fabric is of late become very much out of repair: nor is the college revenue able to support it.

*St. Leonard's* college was founded by *John Hepburne*, prior of *St. Andrew's*, in the reign of king *James V.* with salaries for a principal and warden, four professors of philosophy, and eight poor scholars. A professor of philology was added by Sir *John Scot*, of *Scots-tarvet*, with a liberal salary. He also augmented the library very considerably; and Sir *John Wedderburn*, at his death, left a great collection of books to it. *Fordun's MS.* of the *Scottish* history is in this library.

By an act made 20 *Geo. II.* these two colleges were united, in pursuance of an agreement they had made for that purpose.

The *New College* was founded by archbishop *Beathune*, or *Beaton*, uncle to the cardinal of that name, with endowments for a principal and professor of divinity, and some students in the same faculty; for no philosophy is taught in this college.

The last two colleges, having a better revenue to support them than that of *St. Salvator*, are in much better repair. In the latter, king *Charles I.* held a Parliament, in a large spacious room able to seat 400 persons in regular order; and it still retains the name of the *Parliament-room*.

A professor of mathematics was of late years added to this university; as was also, not long since, a professor of medicine, with an handsome endowment by his grace *James*, late duke of *Chandos*; whom the university, upon the death of the duke of *Atbol*, in gratitude, chose to be their chancellor; which office is during life; and to that alone, and that of his vice-chancellor, belongs the conferring of all university degrees.

Mr. *James Gregory*, professor of mathematics in this university, famous for his knowledge in that science, erected, in the college gardens, a commodious observatory, and furnished it with good mathematical instruments.

It has produced many learned men ; among others, the famous lord *Napier*, who invented logarithms, Sir *Robert Murray*, Sir *Andrew Balfour*, and that great lawyer Sir *George Mackenzie*.

The harbour here has suffered so much by the encroachments of the sea, that I fear it will never be sufficiently repaired. The pier is founded upon a rock of free-stone, in length about 400 feet ; but this rock extends itself into the sea 500 feet farther, on the point of which stands a beacon ; and the great rolling of the sea, breaking over the rock, between the pier-end and this beacon, makes the harbour very dangerous. In the year 1728, it was proposed to be repaired, and the pier carried as far as the beacon, and a brief was granted for that purpose ; but the collections were too small to make any great advance,

By all we have said, it will appear, that this ancient city, and its university too, are in a very declining state. The archbishop's seat, and ecclesiastical courts kept there, beside the great resort of pilgrims to the convents, brought great business thither ; which being now disused, and one new college erected at *Edinburgh*, and another at *Aberdeen*, contribute much to the decay of both. The city enjoys still some privileges by the original charter yet extant, whereby it was incorporated by king *David*, anno 1153.

The reviving the lustre of this once splendid city, recovering to its former utility this once commodious haven, and thereby restoring to its ancient prosperity the happily-seated peninsula of *Fife*, says a very ingenious author, would be a noble testimony of the wisdom and public spirit of the present generation. This, though

though so long neglected, proceeds he, is very practicable, with a small degree of attention, and without demanding any large expence. The country about it abounds in grain, as also in coals and salt; so that provisions being plenty, labour is of course cheap. There are likewise in its neighbourhood great flocks of sheep, producing large quantities of wool, which is of such a staple, as may be easily spun and wove into a sort of light stuff, resembling the *etamines* of *Rheims*, *Amiens*, *Mans*, *Lude*, *Nogent le Rotru*, and other places in *France*, which are used for the nuns veils, the cloathing the secular clergy in most popish countries, and many other purposes; or the *flametes* of the *Low Countries*, not much unlike them, but of all colours, and of which there is in the *Levant* a great consumption; which manufactures might, without difficulty, be brought to, and established in *St. Andrew's*, where there are spare hands enough to be employed. The port, though fallen into so low and deplorable a condition, still retains a capacity of being made full as good, or better than ever it was, by removing those heaps of sand, which entirely choak the basin; repairing the breaches made in the old works; and, which is most material, by running a stone pier as far as the beacon, which would hinder vessels from being driven on the rocks at the entrance, and enable them to ride safe in the harbour. The beach, continues the same gentleman, is as proper as any for drying cod and other fish in the best method; and if the port, become in a manner useless, was once put into a proper state, with these additions, the herring fishery, now no longer carried on, (as requiring better vessels than at present belong to the place) would be very soon retrieved. If one of the decayed edifices was converted into what in *South Britain* is called a *Trinity House*, of which captains of men of war coming thither occasionally, and experienced masters of ships

ships in any of the ports on the coast, might be members, with a power to examine and swear pilots, and to inspect the other harbours on this side *North Britain*, and the management of the fisheries, reporting annually their observations to the trustees, it would be of service to the place, and at the same time a benefit to the public. As the bay of *St. Andrew's*, from *Fife-ness* to *Redhead*, is twenty-four miles in extent, and ships in great danger from the winds at east or north-east, the restoring this, which is the only haven of any size in that space, would be of general use to the trade of this part of *Britain*. At present it is considered as a creek to *Anstruther*, which is itself a member of the port of *Kirkcaldy*.

From *St. Andrew's* we proceeded on to two very agreeable seats belonging to the present earl of *Leven*; one called *Melvil*, and the other *Balgony*. *Melvil* is a regular and beautiful building. *Balgony* is an ancient seat, formerly belonging to the family of *Lestj*; and if not built, was enlarged and repaired, by general *Alexander Lestj*, noted for his services in *Germany*, under *Gustavus Adolphus*, king of *Sweden*; and at last, against our king *Charles I.* and his son.

The river *Leven* runs hard by the walls of the house, and makes the situation very pleasant. The park is large, but not well planted; at least, the trees do not thrive.

From hence we went north to *Cowpar*, the shire-town, most pleasantly situated in a valley, upon the banks of the river *Eden*. It is surrounded with tall trees, which gives it a fine appearance at a distance. I turned to the north-east part of the country, to see the ruins of the famous monastery of *Balmerinock*, of which Mr. *Camden* takes notice; but saw nothing worth observation, the very ruins being almost eaten up by time. The monastery was founded by queen *Ermengred*, wife of king *William* of *Scotland*.

Here



Here we came to the bank of another *Firth*, called the *Firth of Tay*, which, opening to a large breadth at its entrance, as the *Firth of Edinburgh* does, draws in afterwards, as that does at the *Queen's-ferry*, and makes a ferry over at the breadth of two miles to the town of *Dundee*; and then the *Firth* widening again just as that of the *Forth* does also, continues its breadth from four to six miles, till it comes along to *Perth*, as the other does to *Stirling*.

As I design to keep in this part of my work to the east coast of the country, I must for the present quit the *Tay*, keeping a little on the hither side of it, and go back to that part of the country which lies to the south and east of *Dunbarton*, or *Lenoxshire*; so drawing an imaginary line from *Stirling-bridge*, due north, through the heart of the country, to *Inverness*, which I take to lie almost due north and south.

In this course I moved from the ferry mentioned above, to *Perth*, lying upon the same *Tay*, but on the hither bank. It was formerly called *Johnston*, or *St. John's Town*, from an old church dedicated to the evangelist *St. John*, which is still remaining, and so big as to make two parochial churches, and can serve the whole town for their public worship.

*Perth* is the second town of *Scotland* for dignity. Near it stood anciently the town of *Perth*, which being overflowed by an inundation of the *Tay*, occasioned the building of this where it now stands.

The chief business of this town at present is the linen manufacture; which is so considerable here, that all the neighbouring country is employed in it, and it is the wealth of the whole place. The *Tay*, over which there is here thrown a very noble stone bridge, is navigable up to the town for ships of good burden; and here they ship off vast quantities of linen for *England*.

In

In the heat of the war between the *Bruces* and *Ba-liols*, the *English* fortified *Perth* with good bulwarks; the greatest part of which the *Scots* afterwards demolished. It is seated in an hollow; but is nevertheless a neat little city, pleasantly situated between two green plains, which they call the *Inches*, and serve for bleaching their linen cloth. It has three very long streets, and many cross ones, with an old wall in ruins surrounding every side, but that bordered by the river.

The high country behind it affords plentiful pasture to sheep and black cattle; and the *Lowlands* produce abundance of corn. When the fir woods, which are very regularly planted about *Dunkeld*, come to be felled, and the other improvements that have been made of late years, shall also be made known by their effects, the exports from *Perth* will be more considerable.

The salmon taken here, and all over the *Tay*, are extremely good, and the quantity prodigious. They carry them to *Edinburgh*, and to all the towns where they have no salmon, and barrel up great quantities for exportation: the merchants of this town have also a considerable trade to the *Baltic* and *Norway*.

This town was for some time the seat of the rebellion in 1715; but, by a peculiar felicity, the townsmen got so much money by both parties, that they have ever since been enriched by it, as appears not only from particular families, but from the public and private buildings which they have raised since that time; particularly a new *Tolbooth* or *Town-hall*.

At *Ardoch* in *Perthshire* are the remains of a *Roman* camp; and near *Perth* is a *Roman* way, where several medals, sepulchral urns, and other monuments of antiquity, have been found.

From *Perth*, I went south to that part which they called *Clackmanan*, a small shire surrounded by those  
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of *Perth* and *Stirling*, lying west from *Dunfermling*, and extending itself towards *Stirling* and *Dumblain*, none of which part I had gone over before.

North-eastward from *Perth* to *Brechin* lies a vale which they call *Strathmore*, esteemed the most fruitful in corn of all that part of the country: here are a great many gentlemens seats, though on the north-side of the *Tay*, particularly the noble palace of *Glames*, the hereditary seat of the family of *Lyon* earls of *Strathmore*.

It is one of the finest old-built palaces in *Scotland*, and by far the largest. When you see it at a distance, it is so full of turrets, and lofty buildings, spires, and towers, some plain, others shining with gilded tops, that it looks not like a house, but a city; and the appearances seen through the long vistas of the park are so different, that you would not think it the same house any two ways together.

The great avenue is a full half mile, planted on either side with several rows of trees. When you come to the outer gate, you are surprised with the beauty and variety of the statues and busts, some of stone, some of brass, some gilded, some plain. The statues in brass are four, one of king *James VI.* one of king *Charles I.* booted and spurred, as if going to take horse at the head of his army; one of king *Charles II.* habited like that in the *Royal Exchange*, *London*; and one of king *James VII.* after the pattern of that which is at *Whitehall*.

From hence I came away south-west, and, crossing the *Tay* below *Perth*, but above *Dundee*, came at last to *Dumblain*, a town pleasantly situated, on the banks of the river *Allan*; but without any sort of trade. It was made a bishopric by king *David I.* and the ruins of the bishops and canons houses are still to be seen; as are also those of a church of excellent workmanship. *Dumblain* was made famous by the battle fought between

tween the army of king *George I.* under the command of the duke of *Argyle*, and the Pretender's forces under the earl of *Mar*, on *Sheriff-muir*, between this place and *Stirling*.

From hence I proceeded on in sight of *Stirling-bridge*; but, leaving it on the right-hand, turned away east to *Alloway*, where the late earl of *Mar* had a noble seat, and where the navigation of the *Firth of Forth* begins.

This fine seat was formerly called the castle of *Alloway*; but is now so completely modernised, that no appearance of a castle remains.

The gardens of *Alloway House* are by much the finest in *Scotland*, consisting of about 40 acres of ground; and the adjoining wood, which is adapted to the house in avenues and vistas, above three times as much.

Here is an harbour where ships of burden safely ride. The *Glasgow* merchants have erected ware-houses, to which they bring their tobacco and sugars by land, and then ship them for *Holland*, *Hamburgh*, the *Baltic*, or *England*, as they find the market.

The *High-street* of *Alloway* reaches down to this harbour, and is a very spacious well-built street, with rows of trees finely planted all the way. Here are several testimonies of the goodness of their trade, as particularly a large deal yard, or place for laying up all stores of *Norway* goods; which shews that they have a commerce thither. They have large ware-houses of naval stores; such as pitch, tar, hemp, flax, two sawing-mills for cutting or slitting of deals; and a rope-walk, for making all sorts of ropes and cables for rigging and fitting ships, with several other things; which convince us they are no strangers to other trades, as well by sea as land.

East from *Alloway*, is a small county, called *Clackmananshire*, from the head burgh, and is part of *Fife*. The country is plain, the soil fertile: most of it pro-  
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per for pasture; and what lies below the *Orchill-hills*, producing corn very well. But the shire is chiefly known for yielding the best of coal, and the greatest quantity of it, of any part of *Scotland*; so that it is carried, not only to *Edinburgh*, but also to *Holland* and *France*.

On this shore of the *Firth*, farther down, stands the neat and agreeable town of *Culrofs*, lying in length by the water-side, like *Kirkaldy*, being likewise a trading town. Here is a pretty market, a plentiful country behind it, and the navigable *Firth* before it. The coal, the linen manufacture, and plenty of corn, will always keep something of trade alive upon the whole coast.

The ruins of the abbey of *Culrofs* took my attention, part of which was turned into a stable; but the abbey has lately been repaired, and is possessed by the earl of *Diundonald*. The remains of gentlemens seats of long standing, occur every where, in the erection of which houses, the builders shewed, that they studied duration preferable to conveniency. As I passed, I was continually comparing past times with the present, in the former of which the grandeur of the prince, and the splendor of the few noble families were supported at the expence of the people in general, who (the clergy excepted) laboured under the lowest degree of poverty, slavery, and ignorance; whereas now, our traffickers enjoy the fruits of their own labour and industry.

Here is a very noble seat belonging to the *Bruces*, earls of *Kincardine*, and is well worth a traveller's notice; and, indeed, these instances of magnificence are so frequent in *Scotland*, that were we to dwell upon each of them, such of our readers as know nothing of *Scotland*, would be apt to think we were too partial in its favour. But it is certain, that no gentry or nobility in the world formerly exceeded the *Scots* in noble houses,

houses, and all manner of magnificence; as their families, for antiquity of descent, hardly have any equals in any country on earth.

*Culrofs* is a royal burgh in the shire of *Perth*, but in the confines of *Fife*, famous for a branch of the iron manufacture in making girdles, *i. e.* broad round plates, on which they bake their oaten cakes.

Having made this little excursion to the south from *Perth*, you may suppose me now returned northward again; and we proceeded to *Scone*, where almost all the kings of *Scotland* were crowned, since the subduction of the *Picts*.

The celebrated wooden chair, with the stone in it, was brought away from hence, as is well known, by the victorious king *Edward I.* and placed in *Westminster-abbey*, where it now is; but the *Scottish* royal blood succeeding to the *English* crown, in the person of king *James I.* of *England*, and *VI.* of *Scotland*, verified the following prophetic distich, though at the time it was accounted no small loss and disgrace to the kingdom. The lines were these:

*Ni fallat fatum, Scoti, quocunque locatum  
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.*

Thus translated by the *Scots*:

Unless old prophets fail, and wizards wit decay,  
Whence'er this stone is found, the *Scots* shall reign for ay.

It is said to have been first dignified by king *Kenneth*, who, having fought a bloody battle here with the *Picts*, in which he gave them a great overthrow, sat down to rest himself upon this stone, after he had been tired with the slaughter of the enemy; upon which his nobles came round him to congratulate his success; and, in honour to his valour, crowned him  
with

with a garland of victory; from whence he dedicated the stone to the coronation of all the future kings of *Scotland*, hoping from this omen, that they should, like him, be victorious over all their enemies.

But the better sort of *Scots* historians say, their kings brought it from *Ireland* into *I-Coln-Kill* in the isles, and from thence to *Scone* or *Scoon*, when they had subdued the *Picts*.

The palace of *Scoon*, though ancient, is not so much decayed as some of those I have already spoken of; and the Pretender, *anno* 1715, found it very well in repair for his use. Here he lived and kept his court, in all the state and appearance of a sovereign. He issued proclamations, created several lords, knights, and bishops; and preparations were made for crowning him: but as he had never, from his landing, gone into any Protestant church, though episcopal, as many of his adherents expected, but constantly performed his devotions with his priests after the *Remish* way; so he manifested such an invincible reluctance to comply with the usual form of the coronation-oath, that the ceremony, for which some of the popish ladies had even pawned their jewels, was put off. An evidence, that the honesty of the man overcame the policy of the prince; and the greater, as the pope could have given him a dispensation, at pleasure, to justify any breach of the oath.

The building is large, the front being above 200 feet; it has two extraordinary fine square courts, besides others, which contain the offices, outhouses, &c. The royal apartments are spacious and large, but the whole building is entirely after the ancient manner.

From *Scoon* to *Dunkeld*, is so little a way, that we could not help visiting it, being the place where a skirmish was fought between the forces of king *William*, after the Revolution, and some of the viscount of *Dundee's* men, who pursued the king's forces, as they



they were obliged to retire from *Gillicranky*, after lord *Dundee* himself had been killed there.

In one of my excursions, I went from *Perth* to *Dunkeld*; and never in any journey had I a more agreeable variety under my eye. We went over the hill, as they call it; but it ought to be said hills; or rather mountains, as we should deem them in *England*. No sooner had we got over one, but another higher presented itself for our next labour. Between, and upon the declivity of these hills, we had fir-woods all regularly planted: as soon as we descended from an hill, we were sure to meet with an agreeable river, which we heard before we saw it, the water tumultuously, as I may say, rolling over large rock-stones, lying in every part, many of them above the water: the sides of the bank being frequently lined with the same rocky substance, gives a swift motion to the water. These craggy stones lie so thick in some places, as to seem to threaten a stoppage to the stream; but a larger quantity of water being collected by them, it forces its way with a violent current; and making natural cascades, fills a person, disposed to contemplation, with agreeable sensations.

The pass into the *Highlands* is awfully magnificent: high, craggy, and often naked mountains present themselves to view, approach very near each other, and in many parts are fringed with wood, overhanging and darkening the *Tay*, which rolls with great rapidity beneath. After some advance in this hollow, a most beautiful knoll, covered with pines, appears full in view; and soon after, the town of *Dunkeld*, seated under and environed by crags, partly naked, partly wooded, with summits of a vast height.

We passed the river in a boat, and landed in the duke of *Athol's* gardens, which are extremely pleasing, washed by the river, and commanding, from different parts of the walks, the most beautiful and picturesque

views

views of wild and gloomy nature that can be conceived. Trees of all kinds grow here extremely well ; and even so southern a shrub as *Portugal* laurel flourishes greatly. In the gardens are the ruins of the cathedral, once a magnificent edifice, as appears by the beautiful round pillars still standing ; but the choir is preserved, and at present used as a church. In the burial place of the family is a large monument of the marquis of *Athol*, hung with the arms of the numerous connections of the family. In another part is a tomb of an old bishop.

On the other side the river is a pleasing walk along the banks of the water of *Bren*, a great and rapid torrent full of immense stones. On a rock, at the end of the walk, is a neat building, impending over a most horrible chasm, into which the river precipitates itself with great noise and fury from a considerable height. The windows of the pavillion are formed of painted glass ; some of the panes are red, which makes the water resemble a fiery cataract. About a mile farther is another *rumbling brig*, like, but inferior in grandeur, to that of *Kinross*.

The town of *Dunkeld* is small, and has a linen manufacture, though not very considerable. Much company resorts here, in the summer months, for the benefit of drinking goat's milk and whey. I was informed here, that those animals will eat serpents, as it is well known that stags do.

The *Highland* houses hereabout are very oddly built, and look most miserably and desolate, they being composed of clods of peat, stones, and broom. As to chimnies, they are little acquainted with them ; there is sometimes a little hole left open in the top, for the smoke to go out ; other times it is in the end ; and most frequently the door performs this office. Nay, what is more odd, in coming into this town, I saw in  
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one house a chimney made of a cart-wheel, and out of the hollow of the axle passed the smoke.

As to their way of living it is as odd, being chiefly on oatmeal, boiled up in various forms, with water, like hasty-pudding; we used to mix it with milk or ale. Their bread is oatmeal and water made into thin cakes. When oatmeal is dear, they make them of barleymeal, and ale instead of water.

The common people have generally two apartments in their houses, by means of a slight partition; one end they lie in themselves, having a fire in the middle; and chaff of corn or heather is their bed; the other end is for their oxen, calves, &c. which are exceeding small; a full grown ox is seldom bigger than one of our calves of a year old. The smell of the cattle's dung (which is generally very thick about the house), and their peat fire, I believe, keeps them in health, but not free from the itch, which is as common as their oatmeal; and even their better sort of people are rarely free from this malady, which they seldom mind to cure any other way than by their dumb music.

About 14 miles from hence is the famous pass of *Gillicranky*, noted for the fight between the viscount *Dundee*, and king *William's* forces. The mountains in its neighbourhood, on every side, seem to penetrate the skies. It is situated at the foot of a vast mountain, and is near a mile in length. The river *Timel* divides it from mountains still higher, covered with woods. The road is narrow and dangerous, the river lying in a vast hollow running close to it. From these woody mountains flow streams of the purest water. The views and prospects around this pass are truly wonderful for their variety.

Upon the river *Tay* lies *Errol*, the seat of the earl of that name, chief of the ancient family of *Hay*, who derive their origin from a famous peasant, who in the

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reign of *Kenneth III.* being at plough with his two sons, and perceiving the *Scots* flying before the *Danes*, he and his two sons stopt their flight, renewed the battle, and gained the victory; for which they had the lands of *Errol* bestowed upon them; and the family arms are three bloody shields, supported by two naked men with yokes, in remembrance of this famous victory; the father and two sons having no other weapons when they put themselves at the head of the flying *Scots*, but the yokes they took from their ploughs. Of this family are, besides the earls of *Errol*, the marquis of *Tweeddale*, the earl of *Kinnoul*, &c.

But our determined route lay up the eastern shore, and through the shires adjacent on that side, as particularly *Angus*, *Mearns*, *Marr*, *Aberdeen*, *Buchan*, and so, as I laid it out before, to *Inverness*.

Mr. *Camden* tells us, that the *Firth of Tay* was the utmost boundary of the *Roman* empire in *Britain*: That *Julius Agricola*, the best of generals, under *Domitian*, the worst of emperors, though he pierced farther, and traversed by land into the heart of the *Highlands*, yet seeing no end of a barbarous country, and no advantage by the conquest of it, withdrew, and here fixed the *Roman* eagles; and that he frequently harrassed the *Picts* by excursions and inroads, but always returned to his post here, making the *Tay* his frontier.

But our *English* *Cæsars* have outgone the *Romans*; for *Edward I.* as is said before, passed the *Tay*, and rilled the abbey at *Scoon*; and, if we may believe history, penetrated into the remotest parts, which, however, I take to be only the remotest parts of what was then known to the *English*; for as to the *Highlands*, the mountains of *Loquhabar*, *Ross*, *Murray*, *Sutherland*, and *Caithness*, we read nothing of them. From these retreats the *Scots* always returned, *Antæus* like, with double strength, after every defeat; till, in the

next reign, they overthrew his successor *Edward II.* at *Bannockburn*, and drove the *English* out of the whole country, following them over *Tweed* into *England*, and ravaging the counties of *Northumberland* and *Cumberland*.

*Oliver Cromwell* indeed (according to the motto of a noble house in *Scotland*, *Rode Through*) penetrated to the remotest part of the island; and that he might even literally rule it with a rod of iron, built citadels and forts in all the angles and extremes, where he found it needful to place his stationary legions, just as the *Romans* did; as at *Leith*, at *St. Andrew's*, at *Inverness*, *Perth*, *Air*, and several other places. We have since seen the forces of king *George I.* making the same route, nay, ferrying over into the western and north-western islands; here again imitating the prudence of the old *Romans*, who employed their soldiery in amending roads, and making causeways over mountains, that were before thought inaccessible.

Where armies have marched, there is room enough, no doubt, for travellers. With this assurance therefore, we cheerfully crossed the *Tay*.

We left *Strathern*, with the little country of *Meinteith*, for our return; and went down into *Angus* to *Dundee*, a pleasant, large, populous city, which, as it stands well for trade, has as large a share of it, as most towns in *Scotland*, and that as well foreign as domestic.

It is exceeding populous, full of stately houses, and large handsome streets; particularly four very good ones, with a large market-place in the middle, the largest and finest in *Scotland*, except that of *Aberdeen*.

The inhabitants have a very large correspondence with *England*, and ship off a great deal of linen thither; and a great quantity of corn is sent from hence to *England*, as well as to *Holland*. They have likewise a good share of the *Norway* trade; and as they are concerned in the herring fishery, they consequently

# S C O T L A N D. 171

ly have some east country trade, viz. to *Dantzick*, *Königsberg*, *Riga*, &c. They send ships also to *Sweden*, and import iron, copper, tar, pitch, deals, &c. from the several trading ports of that kingdom.

The country behind them, called the *Carse*, or the *Carse of Gowry*, with the vale of *Strathmore*, abounds in corn, which the port of *Dundee* ships off in large quantities, when a crop allows it, to the great advantage of the gentlemen as well as farmers; for as the gentlemen receive all their rents in kind, they would find a great difficulty sometimes to dispose of it, if the merchants here did not ship it off, either for *London* or *Amsterdam*.

The town of *Dundee* stands at a little distance from the *Tay*; but they are joined by a causeway or wall, well paved with flat free-stone, and rows of trees are planted on either side of the walk, which make it very agreeable. On one part of this walk are very good warehouses for merchandizes, especially for heavy goods; and also granaries for corn, of which sometimes they have a vast quantity laid up here; and these, being near the harbour, are convenient, as well for the housing of goods, when landed, as for the easy shipping off what lies for exportation.

They are famous here for their thread manufacture.

*Dundee* was stormed and plundered of great riches, by *Cromwell*, and the *English* army.

Here is a new church, built in a style that does credit to the place, and which shews an enlargement of mind in the Presbyterians, who now begin to think, that the Lord may be praised in beauty of holiness. There is not a relique left of the ancient castle; but its site may be found where the *Lion* inn now stands.

It was the birth-place of *Hector Boetius*, the Scots historian; a man famous in his time, and whose work was anciently more in esteem than of late. It gave the title of viscount to *Graham of Clavers*, who

commanded the forces that appeared for the late king *James* at the Revolution, and was killed at the battle of *Gillicranky*.

Near to *Dundee*, in the mouth of the river, lies *Brochty-craig*, noted for a noble salmon-fishery in its neighbourhood. It was formerly fortified, and defended by a garrison of *English* for many months together.

It is 20 *Scots* miles from *Dundee* to *Montrose*, the way pleasant, the country fruitful, and filled with gentlemens houses. Among these is the noble palace of *Panmure*, forfeited in the rebellion of 1715, by the unfortunate earl of that name, who was wounded in the fight near *Dumblain*. The surname of the family is *Maul*; and *Maulsburgh*, a small town near *Montrose*, is called from it.

The town and port of *Montrose*, i. e. the Mount of *Roses*, was our next stage, standing upon the eastmost shore of *Angus*, open to the *German* or the *Caledonian* ocean, and at the mouth of the little river of *South-Esk*, which makes the harbour.

This town is well situated for trade, and has a good harbour, and the inhabitants always carried on an advantageous trade with *Norway*.

The *Annat* sands, after violent storms from the east, approach nearer to the *Ness*; but are again removed to their old limits by the flood of the *Esk*, a circumstance to be attended to by mariners. The tide rushes up this entrance with a great head and vast fury; but the depth of water is considerable, being six fathoms in the middle, about three days before spring-tide. The breadth is scarcely a quarter of a mile, but the basin instantly expands into a beautiful circle of considerable diameter; but unfortunately most of it is dry at low water, except where the *South-Esk* forms its channel, in which vessels of 200 tons will float even at the lowest ebb.

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The town is adorned with fine buildings, and has an hospital for the poorer inhabitants. It consists of one long street, and another shorter, at the end of it. The street is broad and well paved; and here is a pretty good kirk. It gives title of duke, as it did formerly of earl and marquis, to the chief of the ancient and noble family of *Graham*.

The *French* fleet first made land at this port, when they had the Pretender on board, in the reign of queen *Anne*, having over-shot the mouth of the *Firth* so far, whither they at first designed; but this mistake, which some thought a misfortune, was certainly a deliverance to them; for as on one hand it gave time to the *English* fleet to come up with them before they could enter the *Firth*, so it left them time and room also to make their escape; which, if they had gone up the *Firth*, they could not have done, but must inevitable have been burnt and destroyed, or taken, by the *British* fleet under Sir *George Byng*, which was superior to them in force. He landed on the 22d of *December*, 1715, with about 100 gentlemen and officers, and a considerable sum of money. The episcopal clergy addressed him, and so did the magistrates; and, next day, the earls of *Mar* and *Marshall* went from *Perth* to meet him. On the 6th of *January* following, he made his public entry into *Dundee*, with about 300 men on horseback; as he did on the 9th into *Perth*.

The royal burgh of *Aberbrothock* on this coast, besides being famous for the stately ruins of the greatest abbey in *Scotland*, deserves to be mentioned for its convenient situation for trade; which induced, some years since, the inhabitants to lay the foundation of a new harbour, the old one being so decayed, that it was hazardous even for small vessels to sail into it.

The glory of this place was the abbey, whose very ruins give some idea of its former magnificence. It

lies on a rising ground above the town, and presents an extensive and venerable front; is most finely situated, commands a view of the sea to the east, of a fertile country to the west, bounded by the *Grampian Hills*; and, to the south, of the openings into the *Firths of Tay and Forth*.

Here also is a famous mineral water, much frequented for its virtues in curing divers diseases. It is a very neat but small town, and pleasantly situated. Its chief manufacture is thread; and here are several mills for winding it, of curious contrivance, resembling those at *Derby*. The thread made here passes for *Dundee* thread, the most noted in *Scotland*.

In the inner parts of the shire, to the westward, is *Forfar*, the county-town, and *Brechin*, formerly a bishop's see, made so by king *David*, and where some part of a small cathedral is still standing. Its castle, which belonged to the earl of *Panmure*, is situated exactly like *Warwick Castle* in *England*, and is very well kept with terrace-walks cut out of the rock down to the river. This palace has a greater air of grandeur than *Panmure*, and belongs now to the *York Buildings* company.

*Brechin* is seated upon the river *South-Esk*, over which it has a stately bridge of two arches, and is considerable for its salmon and cattle markets. It is also memorable for a great victory obtained here over the *Danes*, by the chief of the family of *Keith*, earl *Marshall*, who, having killed their general, was advanced to great honours by *Malcolm II*. There was a high stone erected over the grave of the *Danish* general, which is still called *Camus's Cross*, from his name; and at ten miles distance is another cross, over the grave of another eminent *Danish* warrior; and both of them have antique letters and pictures upon them.

From *Montrose* the shore lies due north to *Aberdeen*; in the way is the castle of *Dunnoter*, once a strong fortification.

fortification upon a high precipice of a rock. The earl *Marshall*, of the name of *Keith*, was lord of this castle, as also of a good house near it called *Fetteresso*, and a great estate: which was forfeited, by his joining the earl of *Mar* in the rebellion of 1715. His lordship making his escape, went in the service of *Spain*. His brother, going into the service of *Russia*, made such a figure there, that he was deemed one of the best generals in *Europe*; and, entering into the king of *Prussia*'s service, was preferred to the first military honour, that of velt mareschal, and fell in it, to the inexpressible regret and loss of his royal master.

*Dunnoter* castle is now demolished. It is situated in the shire of *Kincardin*, called the *Merns*. The county is noted for its timber, having in it upwards of five millions of fir-trees, besides vast numbers of other kinds, planted within these 80 years by the gentry, at and about their seats, and which they are yearly adding to, and improving. *Kincardin* was formerly the county-town: but that advantage now, by statute, belongs to *Stonehive*, or *Stonehaven*, a small sea-port town, lying quite in a hollow, so that we did not see it till we were ready to enter it.

*Inverbercy*, on the coast, was made a royal burgh by king *Alexander III*.

*Paldy Kirk*, so called from *Palladius*, first bishop of the *Scots*, is noted for its annual three days fair: the principal commodity brought to it is coarse cloth, which is commonly transported to the *Netherlands*. These towns, being situated by the sea-side, and having generally a little river or inlet of the sea to water them, cannot fail of affording pleasant habitations. Most of the little villages about them support themselves by fishing and smuggling.

On the lands of *Arduthie* and *Redcloak*, are some trenches to be seen, cast up by the *Danes* at one of their

their invasions: and round the hill of *Urie* is a deep ditch, where the *Scots* encamped.

*Fordun* lies also in this county, famous in ancient times for the reliques of the aforesaid *St. Palladius*. It is also noted for being the birth-place of *John de Fordun*, the *Scotch* historian, author of the book called the *Scots Chronicle*, to which all succeeding historians of this nation have been much obliged.

From *Stonehive* to *Aberdeen* is twelve short miles. Within four or five miles of that city, we have a very bad country, the land producing nothing but peat, even to the very city: but the road is paved, or, in bad weather, it would be impassable.

About two miles before we enter *Aberdeen*, we have a stately bridge of stone, consisting of seven arches, over the *Dee*, built by the celebrated *Gawin Dunbar*, bishop of *Dunkeld*, which leads into the shire of *Aberdeen*.

We then travel along the banks of the river, and have a fine prospect of *New Aberdeen*, situated almost close to the sea-side.

It stands at the mouth of two rivers, and is divided into two towns or cities, one called the *New*, the other the *Old Aberdeen*, about a mile distant from each other; one situate on the river *Don*, the other on the river *Dee*, from whence they are more properly called *Aberdon* and *Aberdeen*.

*Aberdon*, or the *Old Town*, lies a mile northward from *Aberdeen*, or the *New Town*, which is sometimes called *Bon-accord* from its motto. It is situated in the mouth of the river *Don*, which is remarkable for the multitude of salmon taken in it. Over the river *Don* is a bridge only of a single arch, sustained on each side by a rock, and is a most noble and surprising piece of workmanship.

*Old Aberdeen* was formerly the bishop's seat, and has a cathedral, commonly called *St. Machar's*, a large

and stately structure, which was anciently much more magnificent : it suffered greatly at the time of the Reformation, and more since the Revolution.

The chief ornament of this town is the *King's College*, on the south-side of it ; a neat and stately structure.

The church and steeple are built of hewn stone, and the summit of the latter resembles an imperial crown. The windows of the church were formerly esteemed for their paintings, and something of their splendor still remains. In the steeple are two bells of extraordinary bigness, besides others.

Close to the church is a library, well furnished with books.

This college was founded by bishop *Elphinston*, in the year 1500, and the greatest part built by him ; but king *James IV.* taking the patronage upon him, it was called the *King's College*. The bull for it was procured from Pope *Alexander VI.* in 1494, endowing it with as ample privileges as those of *Paris* and *Bononia*.

There are in this college a principal, a sub-principal, who is also one of the regents, three other regents, professors of philosophy, a professor of humanity or philology, a professor of divinity, a doctor of physic, a professor of the oriental tongues, a professor of the civil law, and a professor of the mathematics. Dr. *Frazer* has lately been a great benefactor to it.

*New Aberdeen* is about a mile distant, as we have said, from the *Old*, situated at the mouth of the river *Dee*. It is the county-town, and by consequence the seat of the sheriff's courts. It exceeds all the cities in the north of *Scotland* for largeness, extent, and beauty. It stands in a wholesome air, has a great revenue from its salmon fishery, and the inhabitants are generally very courteous. It stands upon three hills, the main part upon the highest ; and the skirts of it extend

into the plain. The houses are neatly built, generally four stories high, or more, and have for the most part gardens and orchards belonging to them; which make the city pleasant and healthful, and the prospect of it beautiful at a distance.

From a round hill, at the west-end of the city, flow two springs, one of clear water, and another with water which, in taste and quality, comes very near the *Spa in Germany*: Dr. *William Barclay* wrote a treatise concerning it.

In this city stands the *Marshall College*, founded by *George earl Marshall*, in the year 1593, to which the city has added many buildings at their own charge.

In this college, which is a distinct university of itself, are a principal, four professors of philosophy, a professor of divinity, a professor of mathematics, and a professor of the oriental languages; and there is lately added a professor of physic. It has a good library, which was founded by the city, enlarged by the gifts of several learned men, and furnished with mathematical instruments\*.

In this city is also a grammar-school, founded by Dr. *Dunn*, having one master and three ushers. There is also a music-school.

The church called *St. Nicholas's* is an handsome edifice of free-stone, with a lofty steeple, resembling a pyramid: it is divided into two churches; but that to the west, being in a ruinous condition, was pulled down, and a very handsome one of free-stone erected on its scite; Mr. *Wyllie* of *Edinburgh* being the architect.

\* By the forfeiture of the earl *Marischall's* estates, the presentation to all the professorships becomes vested in the crown, except the mathematical, which being instituted by the town of *Aberdeen* posterior to the attainder of lord *Marischall*, claims the corporation for its patrons, who generally dispose of it to him, who, on the issue of a competition, shall prove himself the most deserving candidate.

Here is also a prison and a workhouse belonging to the town, likewise an alms-house, and a very excellent hospital founded by Mr. *Robert Gordon*, in which about 40 boys, the sons of decayed merchants and tradesmen, are completely educated, cloathed, and maintained, and, at proper age, apprenticed or otherwise provided for, as their genius points. Near the harbour stands the custom house. The market-place is beautiful and spacious, and the streets adjoining are very handsome; most of the houses are built of stone, four stories high, with handsome sash-windows, and are well furnished within, the citizens here being as gay, as genteel, and perhaps as rich, as in any city in *Scotland*. In the year 1739, an infirmary was erected here; since which, two wings have been added to it: the whole is supported by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants of town and country. In the year 1766, upwards of 700 patients were taken in, who were treated with the greatest humanity. In this infirmary the operation of lithotomy has been introduced with the greatest success, by Dr. *Thomas Livingstone*, fellow of the Royal College of Physicians at *Edinburgh*.

The bridge at *Old Aberdeen*, over the *Don*, consists of one immense arch of stone, sprung from two rocks, one on each side, which serve as a butment to the arch; so that it may be said to have a foundation coeval with nature, and which will last as long. The other bridge is upon the river *Dee*, a mile to the west of *New Aberdeen*; and has seven stately arches. The streets are paved with a sort of flint and pebbles.

Great numbers of the people of *Aberdeen*, and indeed of almost all this county, are of the episcopal persuasion; so that, were it not for the legal establishment, the Presbyterian preachers would have but slender incomes: at *Aberdeen* and *Peterhead* they have beautiful chapels, and organs. There are in this place two meeting-houses of the *English* church, viz.



*St. Paul's* chapel, and the *Trinity-church*: two of the nonjurors, under a titular bishop of *Aberdeen*; two of the *Roman Catholics*; one of the Seceders, or Dissenters from the established kirk, who have lately erected a very large and convenient place of worship contiguous to the church of *St. Nicholas*; one of the quakers; and one of the independents. The methodist principles have spread thus far: in the year 1765, they erected an handsome octagon chapel here, and have a considerable auditory.

The air of this country, to those who were born in a warmer, seems cold: but is in itself healthful and temperate. The winter is milder than can be expected from such a climate; which seems a wonder to *Danes, Poles, and Prussians*, when they come into this country, and consider that, with them, during the winter, there is nothing but perpetual frost and snow. The soil in general is not unfruitful, if duly cultivated; it produces wheat, rye, barley, oats in abundance, peas and beans; nor do they want roots and herbs for food and physic; and foreign plants grow very well there, as daily experience testifies. The mountainous part of the country affords very good pasturage, and the other as good corn.

The adjoining sea not only furnishes them with plenty of fish, but reproaches them with their negligence, when they see the *Dutch* fleets continually fishing on the coasts, from whence they reap great gain; but it is the humour of the inhabitants to apply themselves to the salmon-fishing, and to neglect that of all other sorts.

The quantity of salmon taken in both rivers, is a kind of prodigy. The profits are very considerable, the salmon being sent abroad into different parts of the world, particularly into *England, France, the Baltic*, and several other places.

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The salmon, a fish unknown to *Pliny*, (unless it were the *esox* of the *Rhine*), as it is to this day in all parts of *Italy*, breeds in autumn, in little rivers, and mostly in shallows, where they cover their spawn with sand; at which time they are so very poor and lean, that they are scarce any thing but bones. Of that spawn, in the spring following, comes a fry of small fish, which, making to the sea, in a little time grow to their full bigness; and then making back again to the rivers they were bred in, struggle against the force of the stream; and, whenever any height obstructs their passage, they will with a jerk of their tail (*cum saltu*, from *salio*, to leap, whence probably they have the name of salmon) whip over, to the amazement of the spectators. In these rivers they keep themselves till they breed, during which time there is a law against taking them; which is from *Sept. 8*, to *Dec. 1*.

The herring-fishing is a common blessing to all this shore of *Scotland*, and is like the *Indies* at their door, were it properly used by the *Scots* in general.

They have also a very good manufacture of linen, and likewise of worsted stockings, which they send to *England* in great quantities, and of which they make some so fine, that I have seen them sold for 14, 20, and 30 shillings a pair. They also send them over to *Holland*, and into the north and east seas, in large quantities. The persons who knit them get 2s. and 2s. 6d. *per week*, and often much more, if good hands.

They have also a particular export here of pork, pickled, and packed up in barrels, which they sell chiefly to the *Dutch* for the victualling their *East India* ships, and their men of war; the *Aberdeen* pork having the reputation of being the best cured, for keeping on very long voyages, of any in *Europe*.

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They export also corn and meal: but they generally bring it from the *Firth of Murray*, or *Cromertie*, the corn coming from about *Inverness*, where they have great quantities.

In a word, the people of *Aberdeen* are universal merchants, so far as the trade of the northern part of the world will extend; and it may be esteemed the third city in *Scotland*, that is, the next after *Edinburgh* and *Glasgow*.

Here is great plenty of a sea-weed called *dulse*, which the poor pick off the rocks, and sell about the town every day. It is eaten sometimes by itself, and sometimes with vinegar.

This shire contains in it *Mar*, with its appurtenances, *Birse*, *Glentane*, *Glenmuick*, *Strathdee*, *Strathdon*, *Braes of Mar* and *Cromar*, most part of *Buchan*, *Formartin*, *Garioch*, and *Strathbogy*.

The latter is a large and ancient barony; it was erected into an earldom by king *James VI.* in favour of the chief of the noble and ancient family of *Gordon*, whom he afterwards created marquis of *Huntly*. *Strathbogy* is very fruitful in corn and pasturage, and is remarkable for the fine linen-yarn spun by the women there, and sold to the merchants.

It is mostly inhabited by *Gordons*, vassals to the duke of *Gordon*, who has a magnificent castle here, called *Strathbogy*, from the name of the county. There were of this name, besides the duke, the earls of *Sutherland*, *Abeyn*, *Aberdeen*, and late viscount of *Kennmare*; likewise a great many gentlemen of note in other parts of the kingdom.

The village of *Strathbogy* is mean and small; yet it had a nonjuring meeting-house when I was there, and a kirk and tolbooth. The small trade they have is in linen cloth, which is chiefly carried on by an *Irishman*, who brought this manufacture to great perfection there. At a small distance from this town is  
*Huntly*.

*Huntley-castle*, which gives title to the marquises of that name, of great antiquity; but in ruins. Some of its apartments are entire, and there are to be seen very ancient history-paintings on their ceilings.

A small distance from this castle is a large stone building, which belonged to *Hamilton*, the rebel-governor of *Carlisle*, in 1745, and where he dwelt before he entered into the rebellion. This town and castle stand in a vast plain, and the mountains round them are so regular, that one would think art, and not nature, had placed them there.

*Strathbogy* is a very proper name for this village, the ground all around it being marshes and bogs. The river *Deveron* runs round one side of the town; the *Bogie* surrounds the other, and joins the *Deveron*; and both abound with trouts.

About four miles from *Strathbogy*, I passed by a seat of the lord *Bracco*, now earl of *Fife*, called *Rothiemay*.

About a mile farther on the same side, and upon a more rising ground, is an ancient house, the seat of one *Abernethy*, called laird of *Mayne*. I thought it the pleafantest situation I had ever beheld; for hence you have a full view of the serpentine windings of the charming river *Deveron*. The late proprietor was obliged to pass the concluding part of his life abroad, being charged with the murder of a very worthy gentleman, Mr. *Leith* of *Leith-hall*.

In *Aberdeenshire* are quarries of spotted marble, and slate; and pearls are found in their rivers, of a large size, and fine colour.

There was formerly a mint at *Aberdeen*, as appears by several pieces of coin, with the *Aberdeæ* upon them, kept in the cabinets of the curious.

Other towns in this county are:

1. *Kintore*, a royal burgh on the *Don*, which gives the title of earl to a branch of the family of *Keith*.

2. *Peterhead*, with a good harbour.

3. *Inverary*;

3. *Inverary*, made a royal burgh by king *Robert Bruce*, in memory of a victory he obtained there. It is a small town, but very pleasantly situated upon the river *Don*; and sheltered with trees on every side.

I ought not to omit *Inverury*, belonging to *Garioch*, in *Aberdeenshire*, being the *Scotsman's* boast, for here *Robert Bruce*, though sick, and carried in an horse-litter, defeated *John Cumins*, and those who adhered to him, in favour of *Edward I.* of *England*, who held *Scotland* in subjection. This was the first victory king *Robert* obtained, and laid the foundation of the overthrow of the *English* usurpation in *Scotland*. Near the same place also, in 1411, *Alexander Stuart* earl of *Mar*, defeated *Donald* of the *Isles*, in the bloody battle of *Harlaw*.

From *Aberdeen* the coast goes on to a point of land, which is the farthest north-east part of *Britain*, and is called by the sailors *Buchanness*, being in the shire or county of *Buchan*, part of which belongs to *Aberdeenshire*.

On the south-side of the water of *Eugie* stands *Peterhead*, with a road, which will hold 100 sail of ships; and at this place it is high-water when the moon is directly south. In many places of this shire are great stones placed circularly, one of the largest in the middle towards the south, which have the air of places of worship in the ages of heathenism.

The dropping cave of *Slanes* is very remarkable; of the petrified substance whereof is made excellent lime.

In the month of *October*, 1752, as some quarriers were digging for lime-stone, near *Collistown* in the parish of *Slanes*, they discovered a cave of the same nature, but a more curious form, and easier of access, than the famous dropping-cave above mentioned. The stone is very white, and hangs down in a great number of small tubes, resembling icicles, over a ba-

son of water three feet deep, and about four in diameter. The cave at bottom is nearly circular, six feet broad, and ten in height. On the left hand of the basin is an ascent, which looks like the entrance into another cave. Upon the right-hand is a row of petrified pillars, which, when cleared away, will shew the true dimensions, and entertaining variety of this discovery.

This county, however remote, is full of nobility and gentry, and their seats are seen even to the extremest shores: the family of *Frazer* carries its name to *Frazerburgh*, in the very northermost point of the country. *Erskines*, earls of *Mar*, had their family-seat at *Kildrummy*, in the county of *Mar*, a little south of this part of the county, where the late unhappy earl first set up his standard for the Pretender. The *Hays*, earls of *Errol*, are in *Buchan*; and the family of *Forbes* lord *Forbes*, and *Forbes* late lord *Pitsligo*, are still farther, and the latter on the very shore of the *Caledonian* ocean. The *Gordons* and *Keiths* are very numerous also in these parts.

From hence the east shore of *Scotland* being at an end, the land trends away due west; and, the shire of *Banff* beginning, you see the towns of *Banff*, *Elgin*, *Frazerburgh*, and the famous monastery of *Kinloss*, where the murdered body of king *Duff* was after many years dug up, and discovered to be his by various tokens.

The shire of *Banff* deserves some notice for the following particulars; for that in it is situated *Strathgyle*, which drives a great trade in lime and fat cattle; and it abounds so with lime-stone, that they build their houses with it. They carry on a trade in fine linen, also, by means of their weekly markets at *Keith*, a neighbouring village, which has nothing remarkable, but an exceeding high and steep stone bridge of one arch, over a pleasant branch of the river

ver *Deveron*; close to which I saw a mighty rock-stone, which makes a part of the foundation of the bridge. It was on a *Sunday* when I passed by here; and stopped at the post house for refreshment, but could have nothing but an egg or two, with some wine, or thick *Scots* ale; it being a custom, through many parts of *Scotland*, to eat only an egg, if any thing for dinner, and to have an hot supper; for their seeming strictness in religion will not let them do any labour, even so much as dressing a dinner for themselves or travellers, although they have fowls and other meat in their house, till night, when *Sunday* is over.

Upon the banks of the *Spey*, which runs through this county, lies the *Bog of Gicht*, now called *Gordon-Castle*, the noblest palace in the North, being the duke of *Gordon's* chief seat, and adorned with pleasant gardens, a great park, and fine canal, with an agreeable fountain and statues. The castle appears so large, that it looks more like a town than a nobleman's seat. The duke is proprietor of this part of the county. *Strathaven* is the paternal inheritance of his family, and his grace has a fine estate, and other seats hereabouts. The late duke had a little embroiled himself with the affairs of 1715, and his son, then marquis of *Huntley*, still more; but got off without a forfeiture, by his prudence and good fortune.

The town of *Cullen*, an ancient royal burgh, stands in the shire of *Banff*. It is chiefly noted for its fruitful soil, and salmon-fishing; for, having no port, it has little trade, except for its corn and salmon. At the entrance of this town is a noble seat of the earl of *Finlater*; which was plundered by the rebels in 1745.

*Fochabers* is a town lying in the hollow, close to the banks of the *Spey*, and chiefly consists of one street, a mile long, in the middle of which is a toll-booth lately erected; but generally the houses are

mean



mean and scattering; the chief ornament of all these parts being *Gordon-castle*, mentioned above.

The shire itself takes name from *Banff*, a burgh royal, seated at the mouth of *Deverne*, or *Doveron*, in the *Boyne*, where the sheriff holds his courts. In it are the ruins of an old castle; near which is the abbey of *Deer*, formerly belonging to the *Cistercian* monks, and founded by *William Cumin*, earl of *Buchan*. In *Belvenie* is found the stone of which alum is made; and in the county of *Boyne* great quarries of spotted marble have been discovered.

Before we can enter the town of *Banff*, we are obliged to ford the *Deveron*, which is a very broad river. On its banks we have a fine prospect of the town: adjoining to which, is a grand modern building of the lord *Bracco*, now earl of *Fife*, of the kingdom of *Ireland*. I thought it was the finest piece of architecture I had seen in *Scotland*; but, what is a great misfortune, the inside is not finished, so that nobody lives in it; which was occasioned by a lawsuit between the late lord *Bracco*, and his architect, about a crack in the building; but the architect getting the cause, so grieved lord *Bracco*, that he abandoned this noble pile, and lived amongst the mountains near *Strathbogy*, quite a recluse place, and distant from company. This building at *Banff* is very high, square, and full of columns of noble architecture on every side; it has also towers at every corner, and others in the middle. The river *Deveron* runs close by the intended gardens; and upon it are some small islands, where he has built agreeable summer-houses, &c. *Banff* is a neat town, consisting of two long streets, and several short ones; there are also some neat buildings in it, and two small harbours for shipping; but large vessels cannot come near them. After leaving *Banff*, we have fine views, travelling along

along the sea-coast, of the rising mountains near the *Firth of Cromertie*, but at a vast distance.

*Portsoy* is a neat village, six miles from *Banff*, the sea coming into the town; consequently it affords plenty of fish, as its numerous black rocks do vast quantities of dulse, and other sea-weeds, which we diverted ourselves with gathering and eating.

*Buchan* is part in *Aberdeenshire*, part in the shire of *Banff*: one of its principal towns is *Frazerburgh*, and *Peterhead* is another. The latter is a good market-town, with a port and small harbour, with two little piers for fishing; but, being so near *Aberdeen*, has not those advantages, that might be otherwise probably be given to it: so that at low-water it is all dry, and the smallest ships lie a-ground in it.

The lord *Saltoun* built (in the year 1738) at *Frazerburgh*, an excellent new pier and bulwark, all of free-stone; which render that harbour as safe and commodious as any on the east-coast; so that 30 ships may winter there at once, with great safety: the water at full sea is 18 or 20 feet.

From the point of land, called *Buchanness*, the ships begin their accounts for their several voyages; what they call their departure: as in *England* they do from *Wintertonness*, on the north-east part of *Norfolk*, and from the *Downs* for the voyages to the southward.

From *Fifeness*, which is the northermost point, on the mouth of *Edinburgh Firth*, being the southermost land of *Fife*, to this point of *Buchanness*, the land lies almost due north and south, and the shore is the easternmost land of *Scotland*. The distance between them is 33 leagues 1 mile, which is just 100 miles; though the mariners say, that, measuring by the sea, it is but 28; and from *Wintertonness*, near *Yarmouth*, to this point called *Buchanness*, is just 300 miles.

The river or *Firth of Tay* opens into the sea, about four leagues north from *Fifeness*; and as there is a  
light-

house on the *Isle of May*, in the mouth of the *Firth of Forth* at *Edinburgh*, a little south of this point, called *Fifeness*; there are likewise two light-houses at the entrance of the *Firth of Tay*, for the direction of the sailors, when they are bound into that river, and particularly for their avoiding the two sands, which lie off from the south-side of the entrance.

*Buchanness* is generally also the first land of *Great Britain*, which the ships make in their voyages home from *Archangel* in *Russia*, or from their whale-fishing voyages to *Greenland* and *Spits-bergen* in the North seas: and near this point, at *Pitsfgo*, a great ship was cast away in queen *Elizabeth's* time, bound home from *Archangel*, having on board the first ambassador sent by the great duke of *Muscovy* to any of the Christian princes of *Europe*, he being commissioned to treat with queen *Elizabeth* for a league of peace and commerce. He likewise lost a most valuable present, designed for the queen, of rich costly furs, in those days reputed inestimable. The ambassador was happily saved, and brought on shore, by the people of *Pitsfgo*; but the ship and all the goods were lost.

From this point of easterly land, all that great bay, or inlet of the sea, reaching quite to the north of *Scotland*, is called *Murray Firth*; and the northermost point is *Dungbyhead*, which is the north-east point of *Caithness*, and opens to *Pentland Firth*. By *Pentland Firth* you are to understand the passage of the sea beyond *Caithness*, between *Scotland* and the isles of *Orkney*. What is called *Murray Firth*, is not, like many others, the mouth of a river, as that of *Edinburgh* or *Tay*, but is an open bay in the sea, as the *Bay of Biscay*, or the *Gulph of Mexico*, are; and reaches from *Peterhead* to *Dungbyhead*, opposite to the *Orkneys*, the distance of 79 miles; but it is almost twice as far by land, because of the depth of that bay, which obliges

us

us to travel from *Pitfligo* west, near 70 miles, till we come to *Inverness*.

This county of *Buchan* is more to be taken notice of from what is to be seen on the sea-shore than in the land; for the country is mountainous, and in some places not very fertile; but as we coasted along west, we came into a much better country, particularly the shires of *Banff*, *Elgin*, and the county of *Murray*, from whence the bay I just now described is called *Murray Firth*.

*Murray* is a pleasant country, the soil fruitful, watered with fine rivers, and full of good towns, and gentlemens seats, more than could be expected in so remote a part of the kingdom.

This country is a plain for between 20 and 30 miles together, and the soil is by that means rendered more fruitful and rich, and the temperature of the air more softened, than in other parts of *Scotland*; insomuch that the harvest here, and in the vale of *Strathbogy*, and all the country to *Inverness*, is observed to be more early than in *Northumberland*, nay, than in *Derbyshire*, and even some parts of the more southerly counties in *England*; as particularly in the east of *Kent* and *Suffex*. As a confirmation of this, I affirm, that I have seen the new wheat of this country, and *Inverness*, brought to market to *Edinburgh*, before the wheat at *Edinburgh* has been fit to reap; and yet the harvest about *Edinburgh* is thought to be near as forward as in many parts even of *England* itself. In a word, it is usual in *Murray*, and the country about it, to begin with their harvest in the month of *July*; and it is not very unusual to have new corn fully ripe, and threshed out, shipped off, and brought to *Edinburgh* to sale, within the month of *August*.

The common drink in these parts is ale, and sometimes beer; and they have good *French* wine very cheap, as I and my company experienced; but the

the inhabitants prefer *aqua vitæ* of their own extracting from ale-dregs and spices, to much richer wines than the *French*: of this they drink plentifully themselves, and are very liberal of it to their friends. And a bottle of this liquor, and some cheese, will make a *Murray* man undertake the longest winter journies, without wishing for any other provision.

This country is divided into two shires; the greater, called the shire of *Elgin*; the other, the shire of *Nairn*.

The town of *Nairn* lies on the mouth of the river of that name; along which stand the seats of many persons of quality.

*Nairn* is a royal burgh, and a sea-port town. We enter the town over a noble stone bridge of one arch. The port is capable of receiving small vessels; and, though there are very fine woods in the neighbourhood, yet they turn to less profit than could be wished; and therefore here, if any where in this island, furnaces might with propriety be set up for melting the iron ores, of which there are said to be no inconsiderable quantities within a reasonable distance; and, by this means, even the loppings of these woods would be rendered of more value than the woods themselves are, as things now stand.

Eight miles from *Nairn*, and four from *Inverness*, is *Culloden-Moor*, which takes its name from the seat of the late lord president *Forbes*, who was so active in the suppressing of the rebellion in 1745, and which will be for ever memorable on account of the utter defeat of the rebel army there, which put an end to it.

Near the castle of *Calder*, on that river, is a vein of free-stone, and many signs of copper.

*Tarnaway* castle, on the river *Findorn*, in this county, is an old castle and seat belonging to the earls of *Murray*.

A little

A little lower on the other side, stands the burgh of *Forreſs*; and lower, formerly, ſtood the noble abbey of *Kinlofs*, before mentioned.

At and about *Forreſs* are good roads, and fine proſpects, eſpecially over the ſea, with the ſhipping in *Findorn* harbour, a ſmall ſea-port, four miles diſtant from *Forreſs*. This burgh of *Forreſs* is pleaſantly ſituated at the end of ſeveral ridges of mountains, and is made up of one long ſtreet, with a kirk and toll-booth, and the ruins of an old caſtle, in which, it is ſaid, the kings of *Scotland* uſed to reſide. Here are gardens to every houſe, very agreeably ſituated, and much regarded by the inhabitants.

Juſt before we entered this town, on our right-hand, we were preſented with the ſight of a flat ſquare pillar of ſtone, which riſes about 23 feet in height above-ground, and is, as the inhabitants of *Forreſs* informed me, no leſs than 12 or 15 feet below, ſo that the whole height muſt be about 35 feet, and its breadth near five; it is all one entire ſtone: great variety of hieroglyphic figures, in low relief, are carved thereon; ſome of which are ſtill diſtinct and viſible; but the injury of the weather has obſcured thoſe towards the upper part. What the import or ſignification is, I could hear of none that could inform me. The whole above ground is divided into ſeveral compartments, the loweſt of which is almoſt hid by ſome ſteps, or ſupports, lately made to ſecure it from falling, at the expence of the counteſs of *Murray*. The ſecond contains ſundry figures, but moſt of them defaced. In the third are ſeveral of a monſtrous form reſembling four-footed beaſts with human heads, and others of men ſtanding by them. In the fourth diviſion, are ſix or ſeven enſigns or ſtandards, with ſome figures, holding obſcure weapons in their hands. The fifth and ſixth diviſions are filled with the like figures, and in the uppermoſt of all have been others, which

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are now in a great measure defaced. On the reverse side of this stone is the figure of a cross; beneath which are two human figures, of a very disproportionate and *Gothic* form; and indeed the whole monument, as to its sculpture, is executed in a rude and barbarous taste: on its edges are continued flourishes. The inhabitants here told us, it was erected as a monument of a *Danish* king; some say, slain in battle here; others, that he died at sea, and was brought hither, and buried; others, that it was for a *Scotch* king, &c. But *Camden* tells us it was erected as a monument of a victory obtained by king *Malcolm Mac-Kenneth* over *Sweno* king of *Denmark*.

In this rich county, on the river *Lassie*, which rises a few miles above it, and empties itself into the sea a few miles below it, lies *Elgin*, formerly a bishop's see. It is situated in a very fruitful soil, though somewhat sandy. The usual place of residence of the bishop was at the castle of *Spynie*, within a mile of the town. a very noble seat, with fine gardens and woods.

Though the town of *Elgin* has reason to be proud of its situation, it was not very rich in its revenues; for it had long laboured under heavy and burdensome debts; which, being increased by the rebellion in 1715, put a stop to many of its new public works, and made several others run into decay. At the same time the river *Lassie* having very insufficient banks, the channel of it became choaked with sand, which made it subject to overflow; and, moreover, the harbour of *Lassie* itself, which may be called the port of *Elgin*, lying not far from it, became ruinous and decayed, to the great prejudice of persons trading in the *Murray Firth*, as well as to the town.

*Elgin* is a royal burgh. It consists of one very long street, and several shorter, having a neat church in the middle. The houses are almost all built upon arches, which, with their intermediate pillars, form



agreeable piazzas, and serve to defend the inhabitants from the effects of rain, wind, or sun. It is also noted for the ruins of one of the most stately cathedral churches in the kingdom; most of the end-walls are still remaining, and many noble pillars, which shew its former greatness. At the other end of the town are the ruins of an ancient castle, still visible, though demolished in the *Danish* wars. These ruins are upon a large mount; upon which you have a fine prospect all over the town, and of the adjacent country, even to the sea, and the winding course of the river *Loffie*, which surrounds this town at a small distance; and which is famous for salmon, there being annually pickled and exported from 80 to 100 lasts, all taken in a few months in the summer, and in a space of one mile, at a village called *Germach*. The river abounds with fish to the very head, which are taken either with hooked tridents by day, or wicker-baskets, or little boats, covered with hides, by night. None but the natives, who are used to them, will venture into these boats.

Above *Elgin*, *Forress*, and *Nairn*, lies that part of the country, called the *Brae of Murray*, no way comparable to the lower part for fruitfulness; and beyond this are mountains, woods, and green vallies; particularly *Stratherin*, well inhabited, and abounding with little towns and villages, and *Strathnairn*, a still better soil, and possessed by several gentlemen. *Stratherin* also abounds with lakes, mountains, and streams.

In this country lies *Lochmoy*, with an island, where the laird of *Mackintosh* had his seat. This tribe is called *Glan Chattan*, and are numerous in this country.

But to say a few words more of *Elgin*, before we leave this county: gentlemen of all parties and opinions, as if this town was the court for this part of the island, leave their *Highland* habitations in the winter, and come to live at *Elgin*, with very engaging freedom;

freedom; so that it is a place of greater resort than could be imagined, at the distance of above 450 measured miles from *London*, and more, if we go by *Edinburgh*.

This rich country continues with very little intermission, till we come to *Strathnairn*, or the valley of *Nairn*, where it extends a little farther in breadth towards the mountains, and is not inferior to the other in fruitfulness. From the western part of this county you may observe, that the land goes away again to the North; and, as if you were to enter into another island beyond *Britain*, you find a large lake or inlet from the sea of *Murray*, going on west, as if it were to cut through the island; for we could see no end of it, nor could some of the country people tell us how far it reached, but that it went beyond *Lochaber*: so that we thought, till our maps, and farther inquiry informed us, it had joined the *Western Ocean*.

After we had travelled about 12 miles, and descended from a rising ground, upon which we then were, we perceived the lake contracted in one particular place to the ordinary size of a river, as if designed by nature to give passage to the inhabitants to converse with the northern part; and then it opened again to its former breath, and continued in the form of a large lake, as before, for many more miles than we could see; being in the whole, according to Mr. *Camden*, 23 miles long; but if it be taken on both sides the pass, it is above 35 miles in length.

This situation must necessarily make the narrow part a most important pass, from the most southerly parts of *Scotland* to the northern countries which are beyond it. We have been told, the *Romans* never conquered thus far, and the conquests of *Oliver Cromwell* have been much magnified on this account; but what Mr. *Camden* records, and is confirmed by other accounts from men of learning and observation,

be true, this must be a mistake ; for we are told, that near *Bean-Castle*, in the county of *Nairn*, there was found, in the year 1406, a fine marble vessel curiously carved, which was full of *Roman* coins of several sorts; also several old forts and mounts have been seen here, which, by their remains, evidently shewed themselves to be *Roman*.

I now entered the shire of *Inverness*, abounding with large woods of fir and oak, and having in it some iron mines. It contains *Badenoch*, *Lochaber*, the south and west parts of *Ross*, and the *Isle* of *Sky*.

In the narrow pass mentioned above, over the lake, stands the town and fortress of *Inverness*, that is, a town on the inner bank of the river *Ness*. It has a castle, founded in ancient times, to command the pass: and some authors write, that it was anciently a royal house for the kings of *Scotland*. Be that as it will, *Oliver Cromwell* thought it a place of such importance, that he built a strong citadel here, and kept a stated garrison always in it, and sometimes more than a garrison; finding it needful to have a large body of his veteran troops posted here to preserve the peace of the country, and keep the *Highlanders* in awe, which they effectually did all his time. The fort or citadel built by *Oliver Cromwell* was a large pentagon: it was situated close to the entrance of the river *Ness* into the *Murray Firth*; but is now entirely in ruins, nothing but banks of earth or ditches remaining.

It is observed, that, at the end of those troublesome days, when the troops of all sides came to be disbanded, and the men dispersed, numbers of *English* soldiers settled in this fruitful part of the country: from whence it received two advantages:

1. They learnt the art of husbandry in more perfection than they understood before; which, with the help of a rich soil, has rendered this part of the country

country more fruitful than the rest of *Scotland* to this day : and to this it is in some measure owing, that the harvest is so early, and the corn so good, as is observed above.

2. As *Cromwell's* soldiers improved them thus in the arts and industry of the husbandman, so they left them the *English* accent upon their tongues, which they likewise preserved a long time. At this time they speak perfect *English*, even much better than in the most southerly provinces of *Scotland*; nay, some will say, as well as at *London* itself. And indeed their tongue is not only Anglicised, but their palates too; their way of eating and cookery, dress and behaviour, is pretty much according to the southern mode.

*Inverness* is one of the royal boroughs of *Scotland*, and, jointly with *Nairn*, *Forress*, and *Chañery*, sends a member to Parliament.

The town has a military governor, and the corporation a provost and four bailiffs, which differ but little from our mayor and aldermen. There is, besides, a dean of guild, who presides in matters of trade; and other borough officers, as usual in corporate towns.

*Inverness* is not only the county-town of the shire of that name, but it is deemed the capital of the *Highlands*; and, as such, I shall expatiate upon it, and upon the customs and usages of the *Highlanders* in general. Yet the natives of *Inverness* do not call themselves *Highlanders*, because they speak *English*. This rule of denomination they borrow from the kirk, which, in all its acts and ordinances, distinguishes the *Lowlands* from the *Highlands*, not by the situation, but by the language of the inhabitants.

But though the inhabitants of *Inverness* speak *English*, yet there are scarce any who do not understand the *Erse* or *Irish*, which is absolutely necessary to carry on their dealings with the neighbouring people; for, within less than a mile of the town, there are few

who speak *English* at all, except the gentry, who speak it in the remotest parts.

The town consists chiefly of four streets, three of which concur at the cross; but the fourth is somewhat irregular.

The castle stands upon an hill, which, though not large, is very steep; it joins to the town on the south-side, is of an irregular figure, and built with unhewn stone. It was completely repaired, to serve as part of the citadel of *Fort George*, of which the foundation stone was laid in 1726.

The castle is hereditarily kept by the dukes of *Gordon*. It was formerly a royal palace, where *Mary*, the mother of *James I.* resided, when she thought it her interest to oblige the *Highlanders*; but, before it was repaired, it consisted only of six lodging-rooms, the offices below, and the gallery above. The gallery is taken down, and, each of the rooms being divided into two, there are now twelve apartments for officers. The descent of the castle-hill to the river *Ness* is loose gravel, and very steep, and the buildings on that side reach quite to the edge. While it was repairing, the workmen had cut away some part of the foot of the declivity, to make the passage between the slope and the water somewhat wider; upon which the gravel immediately began to run, and the castle in a few hours must have followed the foundation on which it stood, if the town-masons and soldiers had not instantly run up a dry wall at the foot of the hill; and happy it was for them that stones in that country are every where at hand.

At the foot of this hill is a bridge near 80 yards over, consisting of seven arches well built with stone. By the side of this river, and indeed all over *Scotland*, are to be seen numbers of women with their coats tucked up, stamping in tubs upon linen, to wash it, and, in this place, not in summer only, but in the

depth

depth of winter; for the river never freezes, but, on the contrary, will dissolve the icicles which hang at the feet of horses that have passed through other waters.

The *Town-hall* is a plain building of rubble, and there is one room in it where the magistrates meet upon the town business, which would be tolerable, but that the walls are rough, not being so much as plastered, and the furniture only a table, and some wretched chairs.

The houses of this town are so differently modelled, that they cannot be comprehended in any general description; they are, however, mostly low, because the town is exposed to sudden and impetuous gusts of wind, which rush upon it through the openings of the adjacent mountains. The back-part, or one end of the house, is generally turned towards the street, and there is a short alley which leads into a kind of yard, from whence the stairs ascend that lead to the first floor; for the ground-floor is generally a kind of shop or warehouse, and has no communication with the rest of the building.

The walls are built of stones that greatly differ both in size and shape; many of them are pebbles, and, being almost round, there must necessarily be large gaps between, which on the outside they fill up, by driving in flat stones of a smaller size, and afterwards face the work all over with mortar thrown against it with a trowel, which the call *harling*.

Before the Union, the houses were neither fashed nor slated, and, to this day, the ceiling of one room is nothing more than the identical boards which serve for the floor of another; of the same kind are the partitions between rooms on the same floor, so that, as the planks dry, there is a chink between each, through which it is easy to see all that passes: but this is not all, for the floors are full of holes about an

inch diameter. One of these holes is bored on each plank, at some distance from the end, when they are taken from the saw-mill; and through these holes they put a cord, or, as they call it, a *woodie*, to keep them flat on the sides of the horses which drag them to the place where they are to be used, with the corner of the other end on the ground.

These holes indeed are filled up with pegs, when they are first laid; but, as the wood shrinks, the hole becomes wider, and the peg less, till it drops out, and is seldom afterwards restored. The windows that remain unglazed have two shutters for the lower half, and the upper half only is glazed; so that when it is necessary to keep out the weather, nothing can be seen in the street. This manner of constructing their windows is not altogether the effect of penury or parsimony; for, in the clan quarrels, many were shot from the opposite side of the way, who were discovered sitting in their chambers through the glass.

But though it was begun by danger, it was continued merely by habit; for these quarrels have not of late been carried to such excess.

Such are the houses in the principal streets of *Inverness*: those of the middling sort are yet lower, and have generally a close wooden staircase before the front, which is lighted by small round, or oval holes, just big enough for the head to come through; and in summer, or when any thing in the street excites the curiosity of those without, they look like so many people with their heads in the pillory. The extreme parts of the town consist of wretched hovels, faced and covered with turf, with a bottomless tub or basket in the roof for a chimney.

There are salmon and trout in abundance; also hares, partridge, grouse, plover, duck, mallard, woodcock, and snipes; but, after *Christmas*, no mutton is to be procured till *August*, nor any beef till *September*,  
and



and then they may be bought for a penny a pound. A fowl, which they call a *hen*, may be purchased for two-pence; and there is great plenty of roots and greens.

Swine are seldom seen about the *Highlands*; but pork is very common in the low countries, and in particular at *Aberdeen*, where great quantities, as has been said, are pickled, and sold to other parts for winter provision.

In this place are six ministers; three to the *English*, and three to the *Irish* church, who have each of them 100*l.* *per annum*, none having more than that stipend, nor any less than 50*l.* Their manner of preaching is with a whine, which they call the *fough*; and, as they pray extempore, they are often betrayed into ridiculous absurdities. They do not drink so much as a dram, without saying a long grace over it; and one of them was suspended for riding on horseback on the *Sabbath*, though it was occasioned by his not being able to pass a ford on *Saturday* evening, in his way to the kirk.

By the general tenor of their preaching, and their proceedings as a synod, a stranger would be inclined to think, that they held nothing to be a sin but fornication, nor a virtue but keeping the *Sabbath*. The most zealous vigilance is continually used to discover all breaches of chastity, not only in the North, but in all parts of *Scotland*; so that, at *Edinburgh*, the city-guard has beset the house a whole night, upon information that a man and woman went in there, though in the day-time; and, in the *Highlands* there are a set of fellows, who, if they see two persons of different sexes walk out to take the air, make it their business to dog them from place to place, still keeping themselves concealed; and, if they see any familiarity, will march up, and demand money; upon a refusal of which they will inform, and if they will confirm their

information by an oath, the parties must either quit the country, or do public penance\*.

Each church has but one bell to give notice of divine service, but the music-bells produce fine harmony; they are played every day from eleven to twelve, upon keys, like an organ, and are heard all over the town.

In their marriages, they do not use the ring, as in *England*; but the bride, if she is of the middle class, is conducted to church by two men who take her under the arms, and hurry the poor *unwilling* creature along the streets, as a pickpocket is dragged to an horse-pond in *London*, having been attended the evening before by the bride-maids, who with great ceremony wash her feet.

When a servant-maid has behaved well in a place, her master and misters frequently make what they call a *penny wedding* for her when she marries. They provide a dinner and supper, and invite all their relations and friends; and in the evening, when there is music and dancing, the bride must go round the room, and salute all the men, during which ceremony, every person in the company puts money into a dish, according to their inclination and ability; and by this means the new-married couple often procure a sum sufficient to begin the world with very comfortably for persons in their condition.

The moment a child is born, it is plunged into cold water, though it should be necessary first to break the ice. At the christening, the father holds it up before the pulpit, and receives a long extemporary admonition concerning its education.

The people are invited to ordinary burials by a man who goes about with a bell, and, at certain stations,

\* Public penance for the sin of fornication is now abolished in *Scotland*, where the people are at present no chaster than their southern neighbours.

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declares aloud the death of the party, the name, and place of abode; this bell is also tinkled before the funeral procession. To the burial of persons of higher rank, an invitation is usually given by a printed letter signed by the nearest relation; but sometimes it is general by beat of drum.

The company, which is always numerous, meet in the street at the door of the house; a convenient number of whom (strangers are always the first) are then invited into a room, where there are pyramids of cake and sweetmeats, to which some dishes, with pipes and tobacco, are added, merely because it is an old custom; for it is rare to see any smoking in Scotland.

Each of the nearest relations present wine to every individual of the company, and, as it is expected the guest, when he has accepted the favour of one, should not refuse it to any of the rest, he is in danger of drinking more than he can conveniently carry. When one set has been thus treated, others are introduced, and, when all have had their turn, they accompany the corpse to the grave, where it generally arrives about noon. The minister is always particularly invited, though he performs no kind of service over the dead, of whatever fortune or rank. Part of the company is selected to return to the house, where wine is filled as fast as it can be drank, till there is scarce a sober person among them. In the end, however, some sweet-meats are put into their hats, or thrust into their pockets, with which they afterwards compliment the women of their acquaintance. This ceremony they call the *dradgy*, which perhaps is a corruption of *dirge*.

No fees are paid to the minister or parish, for either christening, marrying, or burying.

Within a mile of *Inverness* the *Highlands* begin to rise on the north-west; but, towards some other points,

there are five or six miles of what the natives call a flat country.

Somewhat to the north-east are the ruins of the fort, built by *Cromwell*, which commanded the town, the mouth of the river, and part of the flat country on the land-side. The rampart is not an unpleasant summer's walk.

About a mile west is a very regular hill, rising out of a perfect flat, which the natives call *Tomahcurach*: it is about 400 yards long, and 150 broad, at the base: it looks almost like a *Thames* wherry, with the keel upwards; and the inhabitants, who for that reason sometimes call it *Noah's Ark*, suppose it to be the perpetual haunt of fairies and witches.

The greatest ornament in all the adjacent country is an island, distant about a quarter of a mile; it is about 600 yards long, surrounded by two branches of the *Ness*, and well planted with trees. To this place the magistrates conduct the judges, when they are upon their circuit, in the beginning of *May*, and entertain them with salmon, which is boiled the moment it is taken out of *Cruives*, and set upon a bank of turf, surrounded by seats of the same.

Not far from the town, large moor-stones, some of them ten feet high, are set up in regular circles, one within another: how long they have been there ranged, or for what purpose, cannot now be certainly known; but, if tradition is to be believed, they were set up by the *Romans*, either for temples in which they sacrificed to their gods, or tribunals for the trials of criminal soldiers.

At the distance of about two miles is *Culloden-house*, a large stone-building, with good gardens and a park. This place was besieged by the rebels in 1715, when the laird was absent in Parliament; but the lady held it out against them, and obliged them to raise the siege.

At

At about the same distance from the town, on the contrary side, is another large old building, which belonged to the lord-advocate or attorney-general; and near it a most romantic wood, diversified with great heights and hollows, with springs of water interspersed, that fall in numerous cascades, and wind out among the brush-wood below.

By the small proportion of arable land in these parts to the rocks and heaths, the most plentiful year scarce produces sufficient to feed the inhabitants; and consequently, in an unfavourable season, they suffer extreme distress.

In *Lochaber*, which, though bordering upon the *Western Ocean*, is yet within the shire of *Inverness*, stands *Fort William*, so named from king *William*, in whose reign it was built, principally as a check upon the *Camerons*, a clan which at that time was greatly addicted to plunder and rebellion.

It stands in a very rocky and barren country, at the foot of a mountain called *Benevis*, and one face of the fortification is washed by a navigable arm of the sea; on the land side it is almost surrounded with rivers, which, though not broad, are rendered impassable by their depth and rapidity. There is also a town called *Maryburgh*, after the queen, which was originally intended as a sutlery to the garrison, and afterwards erected into a barony, in favour of the governor of the fort. The houses are all, by special appointment, built of timber and turf, that they may be easily and suddenly burnt up by the commandant, when in danger of becoming a lodgement for an enemy.

*Fort William* is surrounded by vast mountains, which occasion almost perpetual rain. The loftiest are on the south-side: *Benevis* soars above the rest, and ends in a point, whose height from the sea is said to be 1450 yards. As an ancient *Briton*, (says Mr. Pennant)

*Pennant*), I lament the disgrace of *Snowdon*, once esteemed the highest hill in the island, but now yields the palm to a *Caledonian* mountain.

Near the foot of the bridge, at *Inverness*, upon a pleasant hill, close by the river-side, was situated *Fort-George*, which was a great ornament to the town, before the rebels, in 1746, blew it up. It was not indeed a place of such great strength, as it was a beautiful barrack. Their chief engineer, who laid the train, was mounted up into the air by the blast, and killed: he had a dog which was blown up at the same time a great height, and thrown almost over the river; but, being not so mischievous an one as his master, escaped with his life, though lamed.

We have at *Inverness* a quite *Highland* prospect, and more especially as we look towards *Fort Augustus*; for we see nothing but irregular mountains and vallies.

After two months stay at *Inverness*, I set out for *Fort Augustus*; in coming to which place I travelled along the banks of the river *Ness* four miles, till I came to *Lochness*; from whence the river runs, and discharges itself into *Murray-Firth* at *Inverness*. *Lochness* is a most remarkable and beautiful loch, twenty-four miles long, and two broad, in some places. When we are come to the head of the loch, the prospect is most charming; we look strait along the loch, and losing our sight in the water, on each side the loch is a ridge of most terrible barren woody mountains, which give great surprize to a stranger. We travel from the head of this great pool, along the banks (which make the foot of these mountains), for near 12 miles, and through a road made with the greatest difficulty, by blowing up monstrous rocks, which in many places hang stooping over passengers, and higher than houses, so that it is a little frightful to pass by them. We find many of these dreadful passes, with water dripping out from every part of the fractured rock.

rock. These are intermixed with woods of oak, birch, white poplars, and nut-trees, with springs of water, and many curious plants, peculiar to those mountainous places. We then came to a small and pitiful house of entertainment (yet the only one on the road), called the General's Hut; because general *Wade* lived there, when he commanded the forces in making these most surprising and useful roads through the *Highlands of Scotland*.

Before we came to this place, we had a view, on the other side this loch, of the ruins of the famous castle of *Urquhart*, formerly consisting of seven great towers, said to be built by the *Cumins*, and demolished by king *Edward I.* about four miles to the westward of which castle, on the top of a very high hill, two miles perpendicular, is a lake of cold fresh water, about 30 fathom in length, and six in breadth; no stream running to it or from it. It could never yet be fathomed; and at all seasons of the year it is equally full, and never freezes.

After we leave the General's Hut, we are surprised by a parcel of almost naked boys and girls, coming, upon sight of us, down some craggy rocks of a mountain, to sell us *whortle-berries*, or the *vaccinia nigra* of *Virgil*, which they gather in almost every part of these mountains in prodigious quantities. They sold to every one of us near a mutchkin for a baubee (*i. e.* a pint for an halfpenny); and they chiefly live on the fruit, when they are gathering them on the mountains. By means of the great stain they give, their mouths and hands are dyed in a frightful manner. These are agreeable fruit to the taste, and are accounted very astringent by the country-people; but the astringency lies all in the black skin, and not in the pulp.

After a little way riding from this hut, we are presented, on our right with a most remarkable cataract, of fall of water, more than 20 yards high: it being a



small river, obstructed by vast rocks on the edge of a mountain, and so lets itself into the loch, at the foot of this mountain.

We leave the loch hereabouts on our right, and travel over continued mountains, covered with woods and rocks, and see *Lochness* no more, till we come to *Fort Augustus*; but pass by several smaller lochs, that are separated from the grand one by vast mountains; we also meet with several small rivers (abounding more with rocks than water), which, together with the woods and high mountains, gave great variety and entertainment to a contemplative traveller.

Lastly, when we have ascended the highest mountains, and just going to descend, we are most suddenly and agreeably surpris'd with a valley, and the loch-end, close to which was a grand building, but now in ruins, called *Fort Augustus*; and within two or three stones-throw, upon a more rising-ground, is another large building, which was called the *Old Barracks*, burnt by the rebels. The town of *Kiliwhimen* is only a few miserable huts, thatched with heath or heather, and is situated near the *Old Barracks*. Several curious people told me, that this loch (any more than the river *Ness*) never freezes. They also inform'd me, that it abounded much in sulphur, and was the lightest water in *Scotland*. The road from hence to *Fort William* is 30 miles, quite in a valley, as it is from *Inverness* to this place, and full of lochs all the way, from sea to sea, east and west. This valley is supposed to be near twenty feet lower than the sea; and there is not above eight miles of the way from *Inverness* to *Fort William*, but what is either lochs or rivers.

Thus far my friend.

To whose account it will be proper to add the following brief history of the great work performed by the late general *Wade*, in relation to the new-made roads

roads into and through the *Highlands* of *Scotland*, which have so much altered, and will more and more alter for the better, the face of this part of the united kingdom.

In the year 1724, general *Wade*, by commission from his majesty king *George I.* proceeded to the *Highlands*, to inform himself of some irregularities then complained of. These *Highlands*, as has been before observed, are more than one-half of *Scotland*, composed of mountains, which rise one above another, and extend from *Dunbarton*, near the mouth of the *Clyde*, to the north part of the island, above 200 miles in length, and from 50 to more than 100 in breadth. The little vallies between are divided from one another by barren rocks, bogs, and precipices. Hence the *Highlanders*, being much hindered from commerce and acquaintance with the more cultivated part of the country, were likely to continue for ever attached to their ancient barbarous customs and manners, unless some expedient were found to introduce trade and industry among them.

The general travelled over the most difficult and dangerous passages of the mountains, and in his progress projected the bold undertaking of making smooth and spacious roads in that heap of confusion. In 1726 he began the work, which he completed in 1737; employing therein only 500 of the soldiers quartered in *Scotland*, in the summer season, under officers properly appointed. These roads are all now fit for wheel-carriages, or a train of artillery, being about 250 miles in length, and from 20 to 24 feet in breadth, including aqueducts and side-drains, that preserve them from the injuries of violent rains, so frequent among the mountains. Where the hills permit, they run in right-lines, notwithstanding the rocks and bogs which often interposed. The huge stones, raised out of the ground by engines, are set up

up by the road's side, and serve as guides in deep snows; and at every five measured miles are pillars to inform the traveller how far he has proceeded. The roads enter the mountains at two different parts of the low-country; one at *Crief*, 14 miles north of *Stirling*, where the *Romans* left off their works, yet visible, and the other at *Dunkeld*, 10 miles north of *Perth*. The first, 85 miles in length, leads to *Fort Augustus*, at the west-end of *Lochness*, and proceeds to *Glenalmond*, where the hollow is so narrow, and the mountains on each side so high, that the sun is seen but two or three hours in the longest day.

From *Glenalmond* the road continues to *Abberfaldy*, where, by a bridge, it crosses the river *Tay*, on to *Dalnachardock*, and there falls in with the road which enters the hills of *Dunkeld*, and thence over the hills of *Drummochter* to *Dalwhiney*, where it branches into two; one to the north-west, through *Garva Moor*, and over the *Coriarrack* mountains to *Fort Augustus*; the other due north to the barracks of *Ruthven* and *Inverness*. *Fort Augustus* stands in the very centre of the *Highlands*, half-way between *Fort William* on the west-coast, and *Fort George* at *Inverness* on the east-coast; and the road passes by the sides of the lakes, *Ness*, *Oick*, and *Lochy*, which divide the northern from the southern *Highlands*. From *Inverness* to *Fort William* is 60 measured miles, good part cut through solid rock, but now the most beautiful road in the kingdom, and promotes a trade from *Ireland* to the east and north of *Scotland*.

It would be needless to enumerate the various difficulties that occurred in the making of these roads; I shall therefore mention but two or three.

When the miners blasted with gun-powder the black rock on the side of *Lochness*, they were obliged to hang by ropes till they bored into it. This lake is in itself a curiosity, being a beautiful natural canal,

21 miles in length, with the rocks and mountains rising from the water's edge. It lies in a direct line, being above a mile in breadth, 130 fathoms deep, and was never known to freeze. For the space of 12 miles, along the side of the lake, the road forms an agreeable terrace, from whence the lake is seen to either end, and along the three lakes, *Nefs*, *Oick*, and *Lochy*, in several places, the road is secured from the precipices by walls two or three feet high.

The *Laterfinlay* road runs along the side of *Lochy* for nine miles together, on rocks which project over the water formerly impassable, and brought to their present evenness chiefly by the force of gun-powder.

The road over the *Coriarack* mountain, which is above a quarter of a mile in perpendicular height, is carried on, upon the south declivity, by 17 windings, each about 70 or 80 yards in length, and all supported on the lower-side, and at the turnings, with stone walls of ten or fifteen feet high. The pass of *Snugburgh*, on the north-side of this mountain, is a deep bottom between two steep hills exceeding high, joined by two dry arches, and a wall of supportment.

There are 40 stone bridges built upon these roads; of which the most considerable are those of *Gary* and *Tumble*, of single arches, upwards of 50 feet span, over rapid rivers, which in time of floods roll down stones of monstrous size.

The ease and convenience of these roads has induced several of the *Highland* gentlemen to make good ways, at their own expence, from their homes to the main road; and where there were nothing but turfs for 100 miles together, there are now, at 10 or 12 miles distance from each other, houses of stone and lime for the accommodation of travellers. The *English* drovers, who used to attend the fairs of cattle on the borders of the *Highlanders*, now go into the heart of the country; and the soldiers, who were many  
of

of them husbandmen, taught the inhabitants a better manner of tilling their ground; and many other advantages have accrued to the *Highlanders*, and the kingdom in general.

This work, though so stupendous and beneficial, might have well added lustre to the *Roman* name, were effected by a handful of men, comparatively speaking, and at a small expence. These men, who were soldiers, were commanded by their proper officers, and received 6*d.* a day over and above their pay; a corporal had 8*d.* a serjeant 1*s.* and a subaltern 2*s.* 6*d.* With the same encouragement much might be done in *South Britain*, where a thousandth-part of the labour is hardly wanting to make the roads complete; and the example here exhibited is a demonstration, beyond a possibility of contradiction, of what might be effected, were the same means made use of under the like direction.

When we are over the bridge of *Inverness*, we enter that which we truly call the North of *Scotland*, and others the *North Highlands*; in which are several distinct shires, but cannot call for a particular description, because they are all one undistinguished range of mountains and woods, overspread with vast and almost uninhabited rocks and steeps, filled with deer innumerable of various kinds; among which are some of those the ancients called harts and roebucks, with overgrown stags and hinds of the red-deer kind, whose flesh eats extremely well.

Before I describe, in my own way, this frightful country, it is fit to observe, that *Scotland* may be divided into four districts, which I have not seen any of our geographers do before me; yet, I believe, may not be an improper measurement for such as would form a just idea of the whole in their minds:

1. The *South-land*, or that part of *Scotland* south of the river *Tay*, and drawing a line from the *Tay* about

*Part*

*Perth* to *Lochlomond*, and down to *Dunbarton*, and the bank of *Clyde*.

2. The *Middle*, or *Midland*, being all the country from the *Tay* and the *Lochlomond*, north to the lake of *Nefs* and *Aber*, including a long slope to the south, taking in the western *Highland* of *Argyle* and *Lorn*, and the isles of *Isla* and *Jura*.

3. The *Northland*, being all the country beyond *Inverness*, and the *Loch* or river *Nefs*, North, drawing the line over the narrow space of *Glengary*, between the *Nefs* and *Aber*, and bounded by them both from the eastern to the western sea.

4. The *Islands*, being all the western and northern islands, the *Hebrides*, *Sky*, *Orkneys*, and the other isles of *Shetland*.

According to this description, having passed the bridge over the river *Nefs*, I am now entered on the third division of *Scotland*, called the *Northland*. Here are not only the best hawks of all kinds, but eagles in great numbers, which prey upon the young fawns when they fall first, and upon wild-fowl, with which this part of the country abounds.

The rivers and lakes also in this country are so prodigiously full of salmon, that it is hardly credible what quantities are taken in the *Spey*, the *Nairn*, the *Nefs*, and other rivers hereabout.

The several counties beyond the *Nefs*, are *Ross*, *Sutherland*, *Strathnaver*, *Caithness*, and, beyond those, the islands of *Orkney* and *Shetland*.

*Sutherland* is called the shire of *Dornoch*, from the chief town of the province called *Dornoch*, a royal burgh, noted for a castle belonging to the earl of *Sutherland*; for its cathedral church for the diocese of *Caithness*, which once was part of this shire, and for its four annual fairs. It has three remarkable forests, besides abundance of other woods, which afford pleasant hunting and fowling. One sort of bird is peculiar to the country, called *knug*, which resembles a parrot,

rot, and digs its nest in the trunks of oak; with its beak. There are about 60 lakes in this county: the greatest is *Lochfin*, 14 miles in length; in many of them are islands, very pleasant for summer habitations. In the isle of *Brora* the earl of *Sutherland* has an house, which he makes use of when he comes to hunt deer, which abound in it; and in some of the lakes and rivers of this county, as well as in the rivers of *Aberdeen* and *Ross*, are found pearls of great value. In short, this shire so abounds with lakes, rivers, and bays, that there is scarce a farm in the whole county but is washed either with fresh or salt water, so that the inhabitants have store of fish and fowl. The bear or big in this county is reckoned excellent. It has also silver mines, and excellent iron mines, coal mines, and quarries of free-stone, but much neglected. It has many commodious harbours for ships to export its commodities, which are cod, salmon, salt beef, wool, skins, hides, tallow, butter, cheese, &c.

The bays and coasts also abound with seals, have sometimes whales, and shell-fish of all sorts.

The earl of *Sutherland* has a castle beyond *Inverness* called *Dunrobin*, situate on the eastern shore. In the gardens of this seat, though so northerly, saffron grows very well, and comes to maturity.

*Strathnaver* is part of *Sutherland*, and derives its name from *Strath*, a valley, situated on the river *Navern*, which runs through it. The country is mountainous, and formerly was noted for breeding greater numbers of ravenous wolves than any other in Scotland. The bays and rivers are full of fish; it is very woody, and many lakes are in the vallies. There are several monuments in it of victories gained over the *Danes*, particularly one at *Enbo*, which is a stone cross, said to be over a *Danish* king. The inhabitants are great hunters, and despise those who are not; so that venison with them is a common dish. The situation of

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the country not admitting of towns, the inhabitants live up and down in small villages. On the northern coast of this county are several islands. Of the many lakes *Lochnavern* and *Lochyol* are the largest, and the latter affords an island, which is inhabited in the summer-time. *Borwe* and *Tong* are the places of most note, the latter the principal seat of the lord *Rea*, chief of the *Mackays*, who is the principal proprietor of *Strathnavern*; but holds it of the earls of *Sutherland*, to whose eldest sons it gives the title of lord. Lord *Duffus* is descended of this family. The county has several mountains of white marble, as we are told.

North of the mouth of the river *Ness*, is the famous *Cromertie* bay, or *Cromertie Firth*, noted for being the finest harbour, with the least business perhaps, of any in *Britain*. It is 15 miles long, and in many places two miles broad; and like *Milford-Haven* in *Wales*, is able to receive the royal navy of *Great Britain*, both to go out and come in with safety: but, for want of trade, this noble harbour, which, by geographers and mariners, is called *Portus Salutis*, or the *Harbour of Safety*, is become almost useless.

The shire of *Cromertis* is denominated from a royal borough, standing upon the *Firth* of *Cromertie*. The waters of *Carron* are celebrated for the pearls found in them. Of great part of this county the late earl of *Cromertie* was proprietor. The *straiths*, or vallies, upon the water-side abound with woods: particularly, upon the hills is great store of all sorts of game; also near *Alferig*, upon the waters of *Braan*, and on the *Carron*, are great woods of fir.

*Caithness* is divided from *Sutherland* by the mountain *Knockfin* and a tract of mountains running from it as far as *Knockfin*.

Some people tell us, they have lead, copper, and iron, in this part of *Scotland*; and I am inclined to believe it; but it seems reserved for a future and more industrious

industrious age to search into it. Should a time come, when these hidden treasures of the earth shall be discovered and improved, this part of *Scotland* would be no longer esteemed poor; for such a production would soon change the face of things, bring wealth and commerce to it, fill the harbours with ships, the towns with people, and, by consuming the provisions, occasion the soil to be cultivated, the fish cured, the cattle consumed at home, and thereby diffuse prosperity all around them.

There are many little towns and villages, beside gentlemens seats, in *Caithness*, as far North as it is; but the people are more addicted to good living within doors, than to shewy edifices, or fine seats. The best house in it is *Castle Sinclair*\*; so called from the name of lord *Sinclair*, whose seat it is; and they have several other castles in the county. The lord *Sinclair* of *Ravensheugh* in *Fife*, is chief of the name. His ancestors formerly possessed *Orkney* and *Shetland*, and were allied to the royal family of *Denmark*. But one of the family squandered away his estate, and, among the rest, these islands; and got for it the inglorious title of *William the Waster*. The chief town and royal burgh in *Caithness* is *Wick*, or *Weich*, whence it is called the shire of *Weich*. The town lies conveniently for trade, and has a good harbour for ships on the eastern coast. It is the residence of the sheriff, or his officer.

*Thurso*, another town with a good harbour, lies also on the northern coast, in a little bay. West from hence runs the river of *Fors*, at the mouth of which there is also a little town of the same name. The islands of *Orkney* and *Shetland*, I refer to the account of the *Isles*.

\* *Castle Sinclair* has been long in ruins; as has likewise one built on another promontory of the same rock, called *Castle Girnigo*.

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And I shall observe, once for all, that I am the more particular in my description of these northern parts of *Scotland*, because they are least known, and less valued and esteemed than they deserve.

This country is surrounded with the sea, and those two great inlets of water, mentioned above, called the *Nefs* and *Aber*: so that it forms a peninsula, by means of that small neck of land of about eight miles long, which Mr. *Camden* calls the *Garraw*, or *Glengarraw*, others *Glengary*. Were it not for this, the whole division of the *Northland* would be a distinct island, separated from all the rest of *Great Britain*, as effectually as the *Orkneys*, or the *Sky*, are from this.

That part which lies to the east, is open to the sea, without cover; the west and the north are, in a manner, surrounded with out-works, as a defence to break off the raging ocean from the North; for the Western Islands on one side, and the *Orkneys* on the other, lie as so many advanced fortifications, or redoubts, to combat that enemy at a distance.

From *Dunrobin* castle you have nothing of note offers itself, either by sea or land, but an extended shore, lying north and south, without towns, and without harbours; and as there are none of the former to be found, so none of the latter are necessary.

The land thus extended lies north and south to *Dunglby-head*, or *Duncan's-bay-head*, which is the utmost extent of it, on the east-side of *Britain North*, and is distant from *Cromertie* 18 leagues north. From this point of *Dunglby-head*, as I observed before of *Buchan* and *Winterton*, the sailors take their distances, and keep their accounts in their going farther North;

From this point of *Dunglby-head* to the *Fair-isle*, or *Faro*, which is the first of *Shetland*, or the last of the *Orkneys* (call it which you will, for it lies between both), is 25 leagues, or 75 miles.

From the same *Dungby head* to *Sumburgh-head*, that is, to *Shetland*, is 32 leagues, or 96 miles, and to *Lerwick* fort in *Shetland* 110 miles.

Thus, from *Buchanefs* to *Sumburgh-head*, in *Shetland*, is 47 leagues.

And from *Wintertonefs* near *Yarmouth* on the coast of *Norfolk*, to *Buchanefs*, on the coast of *Aberdeen*, is just 100 leagues. So from *Winterton* to *Shetland* are 147 leagues, or 431 miles.

I am now to observe, that we are here at the extremest point of the island of *Great Britain*; and that here the land bears away west, leaving a large strait, or sea, which they call *Piceland*, or *Pentland Firth*, and which divides between the island of *Great Britain*, and the isles of the *Orkneys*; a passage broad and fine; for it is not less than five leagues over, and has a sufficient depth of water for ships to sail in: but the tides are so fierce, so uncertain, and the gushes and sudden squalls of wind so frequent, that very few merchant-ships care to venture through it; and the *Dutch East India* ships, which come north about (as it is called) in their return from *India*, keep all farther off, and chuse to come by *Fair-isle*, in the passage between the islands of *Orkney* and *Shetland*; whither they generally send their men of war to meet them, being sure of not missing them in so narrow a passage.

But the passage here is much broader, being at least nine leagues from *North Ronalds*, the farthest island of the *Orkneys*, to *Fair-Isle*, and five more from *Fair-Isle* to *Shetland*: so that it is 14 leagues clear open sea between the *Orkneys* and *Shetland*, with only a small island in the way, which has nothing dangerous about it.

In the passage between the land's-end of *Britain*, and the *Orkneys*, is a small island, which our mariners called *Stroma*; *Mr. Camden*, and others, *Seuna*; and is much

much spoken of, as dangerous for ships: but I see no room to record any thing of that kind, any more than the report, that it is haunted by witches and spirits, which draw ships on shore to their misfortune. The cheeses made in this island are remarkable for their excellent taste, and for their diminutive size.

At *Dungby-head* is the most northerly land of *Great Britain*; where, in the month of *June*, after a clear day, we could see to read the smallest print, and to write distinctly, all night long, without the help of candle.

From hence west, we go along the shore of the *Firth*, which they call *Pentland*, where is the famous house called *John o' Great's*. We set our horses feet into the sea, on the most northerly land, as the people say, of *Britain*, though, I think, *Dungby-head* is as far North. It is certain, however, the difference is but very small, being either of them in the latitude of  $59^{\circ} 10'$  north, and *Shetland* reaching above two degrees farther. The dominions of *Great Britain* are extended from the *Isle of Wight*, in the latitude of 51 degrees, to the isles of *Unsta* in *Shetland*, in the latitude of 61 degrees 30 minutes, being 10 degrees or full 600 miles in length; which island of *Unst*, or *Unsta*, being the most remote of the isles of *Shetland* to the north-east, lies 167 leagues from *Wintertowness* in *Norfolk*.

Here are found, however mountainous and wild the country appeared, the people extremely well furnished with provisions, especially four sorts, in great plenty; two of them sufficient for a common table, the other two, the splendor of the greatest:

1. Very good bread, as well oat bread as wheat, though the last not so cheap as the first.
2. Venison exceeding plentiful, and at all seasons, young or old; which they kill with their guns, wherever they find it, for there is no restraint; on which

account all the *Highlanders* have fire-arms, and become excellent marksmen.

3. Salmon in such plenty as is scarce credible, and consequently so cheap, that to those who have any substance to buy with, it is not worth giving themselves any trouble to catch it. This they eat fresh in the season, and at other times cured by being dried in the sun, and so preserved all the year.

4. They have no want of cows and sheep; but the latter are so wild, that sometimes, were they not naturally used to flock together, they would be much harder to kill than the deer.

From hence to the west point of the passage to *Orkney* is near 20 miles, which may be called the end of the island of *Britain*, which faces directly to the north pole; so that the tail of the *Great Bear* is seen just over your head. The day is here, in summer, said to be 18 hours long, the sun remaining so long above the horizon; and when he is set, he makes so small an arch of a circle below the horizon, that it is much above a twilight all the night; but it must be remembered, that the dark nights take in winter their turn, and are protracted to as great a degree.

Yet it is observable here, that they have more temperate winters, generally speaking, than we have in the most southerly part of the island; and particularly, the water in some of the rivers, as in the *Nefs*, for example, never freezes; which is accounted for from the nearness of the sea, which, filling the air with salt vapours, sheathes, as it were, the acute particles of the cold.

For the same reason the snows are not so deep, nor do they lie so long upon the ground, as in other places. The summits indeed of the high hills, whither these vapours cannot reach, are continually covered with snow, and perhaps have been so for many ages.

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On the most inland parts of this country, especially in the shire of *Ross*, they have vast woods of fir-trees for 15 or 20 miles in length, not planted by mens hands, as I have described in the southern part of *Scotland*; but as they came out of the hands of Nature, and nourished by her handmaid, Time. If we may believe the inhabitants, they are large enough to make masts for the biggest ships; and yet are of no service, merely for want of the convenience of water carriage to bring them away.

And now leaving the northern prospect, we pass the opposite point west from *Dungby-head*, and which the people call *Faro head*, though Mr. *Camden* calls these two points by two different names: the east point, or *Dungby-head*, he calls *Virvedrum Promontorium*; the west point, or *Faro-head*, he calls *Sarvedrum Promontorium*.

From hence the vast western *Atlantic Ocean* appears; for which the geographers have not agreed upon a name, there being no country to derive it from.

And now we were to turn our faces south; for as to the islands of this sea, which make the fourth division of *Scotland*, as I mentioned before, I shall take notice of them under one head, in the conclusion of my Tour.

In our attempt to come down to the southward by the coast of *Tayne*, and the shire of *Ross*, we should have been extremely disappointed, and perhaps have been obliged to get a ship or bark, to have carried us round the *Isle of Sky* into *Lochaber*, had it not been for the extraordinary courtesy of some of the gentlemen of the country.

On the other hand, we unexpectedly met here some *Englismen*, who were employed by merchants in the South, to take and cure a large quantity of white-fish, and afterwards of herrings, on account of trade. We had not only the civility of their assistance and accom-



modation in our journey, but the pleasure of seeing what progress they made in their undertaking.

As for herrings, the quantity of them was prodigious. The shoal was beginning to come, when we first came to the head of *Pentland-Firth*; and in a fortnight's time the body of their numberless shoals began to appear; but, before we left the coast, you would have ventured to say of the sea, as they do of the river *Tibiscus*, or *Tbieffe*, in *Hungary*, that it was one-third water, and two-thirds fish. The operation of taking them could hardly be called fishing; for they did little more than dip for them into the water, and take them up. I make no scruple to say, that, if there had been 10,000 ships to have loaded with them, they might all have been filled. The fish did not seem to stay, but passed on to the south, that they might supply other parts, and make way also for those innumerable shoals which were to come after.

Had the quantity of white-fish been any way proportioned to the herrings, there would, no doubt, have been such encouragements to the merchants, that they would never have given it over; but they found it would not fully answer: not but that there were great quantities of cod, and the fish were sizeable and good; but, as they are taken with hook and line, they could not with any dispatch get a sufficient loading, or lay up enough in large quantities in the season.

The bay of *Tayne* is unsafe for ships, runs a great way up into the country, divides *Ross* from *Sutherland*, and ends at the promontory of *Tarbat*. We found the town of *Tayne*, and some other villages, tolerably well inhabited, and some trade also, occasioned principally by the communication with the Western Islands, and also by the herring fishing, the fishing-boats from other parts often putting into those ports: for all their coasts is full of loughs and rivers, and other openings, which make very good harbours  
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for shipping; and, what is remarkable, some of those loughs are infinitely full of herrings, even where, as they tell us, they have no communication with the sea; so that they must have, in all probability, been put into them alive by some particular hands, and have multiplied there, as we find at this time, if they have not some communications with the sea, which are not discovered to the inhabitants.

We could understand no more of what the people commonly said on this side, than if we had been in *Morocco*; all the remedy we had was, that we found most of the gentlemen spoke *French*, and some few broad *Scotch*. It was indeed, upon other accounts, much for our convenience to make the common people believe we were *French*.

Should we go about here to give you an account of the religion of the people in this country, it would be an unpleasant work, and perhaps scarce gain credit. You would hardly believe, that in a Christian island, as this is said to be, there should be people, who know so little of the Christian religion, as not to distinguish *Sunday* from a common day of labour, or the worship of God from an ordinary meeting for conversation. I am unwilling to record so ungrateful a truth, which may in time find redress; but I cannot but say, that his majesty's gift of 1000*l.* paid annually to the Assembly of *Scotland*, for sending ministers or missionaries for the propagating Christian knowledge in the *Highlands*, is certainly one of the most needful charities that could have been thought of, and truly worthy of so great a prince; and, if prudently applied, as there is reason to believe it is, may in time dispel that cloud of ignorance, that has so far overspread this unhappy part of the country. The people have the Bible in their own language, the *Erse*, and the missionaries are obliged to preach to them, and examine and catechise their children, in the *Erse* language;

so that we are not to despair of having this country as well instructed in time, as other parts of *Britain*.

The shire of *Tayne*, with the little shire of *Cromertie*, and part of the shire of *Inverness*, comprehends the whole country called *Ross*. The first tract towards the south-west, in the county of *Ross*, is *Kintail*, separated from the *Isle of Sky* by a narrow firth. Next is a little tract called *Glenelg*, the paternal estate of the late earl of *Seaforth*, whose chief seat is called *Castle Tienowen*, lying in an island of the above mentioned *Firth*. Farther north, on the same coast, lies *Lochew*, with thick woods, where iron was formerly made. A little farther north, *Lochbrim* runs into this country, and is remarkable for its noble annual fishery for herrings.

The peninsula which lies between the bay of *Cromertie* and *Murray* is called *Ardmeanach*, upon the shore of which stands the town called *Fortrose*, or the *Gbanonry of Ross*, formerly a bishop's see. It is pleasantly situated in a valley, betwixt fruitful hills. It had once a stately cathedral and castle, where the bishop dwelt. Here the late earl of *Seaforth* had a noble house.

*Beaulieu*, formerly a pleasant and rich abbey, lies near the mouth of the river *Farrar*. The bulk of lord *Lowat's* estate was in these parts; the rest, to the amount of 5,000*l. per annum* in *Stratherick*. He was a potent chieftain, and could raise about 1000 men; but I found his neighbours spoke as unfavourable of him, as his enemies did in the most distant parts of the kingdom. These estates were forfeited to the crown on his engaging in the late rebellion, but were restored to his son, colonel *Frazer*, in 1774, by act of Parliament. The late earl of *Seaforth* had near it a castle, called *Kildun*. There are other seats of ancient families in this country; and indeed many throughout the northern part of the united kingdom, which, would my compass allow me to describe, or but

to mention, would enable you to form an idea of the numerous families of gentry, which *Scotland* produces.

On the west is the *Isle of Sky*, lying from the west-north-west, to the east-south-east, and bearing upon the main land, only separated by a narrow strait of water; something like as the *Isle of Wight* is separated from the county of *Southampton*. We left this on our right, and crossing the mountains, came, with as little stay as we could, to the loughs called *Lochyol*, and *Lochloch*, which run through that large country called *Lochaber*, that is, *over the lochs*, and which some affect to call the river *Aber*, or *Abre*, i. e. the water which, as I said above, assists, with *Loughness*, or *Lochness*, to separate the north land of *Scotland* from the middle part.

This is a long and narrow inlet of the sea, in length above 24 miles, the depth unknown: which, opening from the *Irish* sea, south-west, meets the river *Abre*, or, as the *Scots* much more properly express it, the water of *Abre*; for it is rather a large lake or *loch*, than a river; and receives innumerable small rivers into it. It rises in the mountains of *Ross*, or of *Glengary*, within five or six miles from the shore of *Lochness*, or the water of *Ness*, which is a long and narrow lake like itself; and as the *Ness* runs away east to *Inverness*, and so into the great gulph called *Murray Firth*, so the *Abre*, becoming presently a *loch*, or lake, always goes away more to the southward, and sloping south-west, runs into the *Irish* seas.

*Lochaber* is 50 miles in a strait line from *Inverloch* to *Inverness*, and is one of the most barren countries in *North Britain*; though the people have wood, goats, and deer, in plenty. *Glenco* is almost the only town in it; it is noted for the barbarous and inhuman massacre perpetrated there by king *William's* soldiers, quartered in those parts, and who cut off men, women, and children, without mercy. A massacre

that made a great noise, and was universally detested; and what made it still the more odious, was, that the commander in that bloody work found friends enough to screen him from the inquiry that was attempted to be made into the horrid fact, in order to find out who gave him his orders for it.

*Lochaber* is noted in history for *Banco*, its gallant thane, about the year 1050, who was murdered by the tyrant *Macbeth*, because of a prophecy, "That his posterity should enjoy the crown for a long series of years:" which accordingly happened; for his son, flying into *Wales*, married the prince of *North Wales's* daughter; by whom he had *Walter*, afterwards steward of *Scotland*; from whom the royal family of *Stuart* was descended. It was on this story, that our celebrated *Shakspeare* founded his tragedy called *Macbeth*.

On this water of *Abre*, just at the entrance of the *Loch*, was anciently a fort built to curb the *Highlanders*, on either side, called *Inverlochy*, now *Castle William* before mentioned.

From *Inverlochy* to *Lochness*, is the famous road made by general *Wade*, as described before.

To defend this road from the rage of the *Highlanders*, and, at the same time to keep them in awe, the general built a regular fortification, called *Fort Augustus*, which, as has been said, was taken and demolished by the rebels in 1745.

At this place we take our leave of the third division, which I call the north-land of *Scotland*.

We have nothing now remaining for a full survey of *Scotland*, but the western part of the middle division of it; and this, though a large country, yet affords not an equal variety with the eastern part of the same division.

To traverse the remainder of this country, I must begin upon the *Upper Tay*, as we may justly call it, where I left off, when I turned away east; and here we have, in especial manner, the countries of *Badenach*,

*noch*, *Athol*, and *Braidalbin*: this is an hilly country properly; but as it is watered by the *Tay*, and many other pleasant rivers, which fall into it, there are several fruitful valleys interspersed among the hills; nor are even the *Highlands* themselves, or the *Highlanders* the inhabitants, any thing so wild, untaught, or untractable, as we have been made to believe; and as are to be found in the north-land division, that is to say, in *Strathnavern*, *Ross*, *Tayne*, &c.

The duke of *Athol* is lord, I had almost said king of this country; and has the greatest number of vassals of any nobleman in this, or any part of *Scotland*.

The late duke was always an opposer of the Union in the Parliament holden at *Edinburgh*, for passing it into an act; but he did not carry his opposition to an height of tumult and rebellion.

The duke had several fine seats in this country; as first at *Dunkeld*, upon the *Tay*, which I mentioned before; another at *Huntingtour*, in the *Strathern*, or valley of *Ern*, where the duke has a fine park, and great store of deer. This may be called his hunting-seat, whither he sometimes retires for sport.

He has another seat at the castle of *Blair*, farther north, and beyond the *Tay*, on the edge of *Braidalbin*, upon the banks of a clear and fine river, which falls into the *Tay* a few miles lower. By means of sluices this river is formed into a pond, quite in the front of the house, which is six stories high, and a prison in appearance; having the windows covered with iron bars; its walls five feet thick. It has vast high mountains on every side; but at a great distance from the house. The gardens are not so curious as at the duke's house at *Dunkeld*; but here are statues, which the other has not; to wit, an *Hercules*, a *Diana*, *Bacchus*, and a temple of *Fame*, filled on every side with bustoes of the ancient philosophers and poets; that of the duke himself being placed in the middle in lead  
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gilt. He has also *English* cattle, which thrive well. The town consists only of a few peat-houses, except the minister's house, one pretty good 'Change, as it is called, or public-house, and a poor old kirk, the pews all broken down, doors open, full of dirt: the minister, however, preaches in it once a week, in the *Erse* tongue. Mile-stones are erected to this house from *Dunkeld*, which is about 20 miles.

The county of *Braidalbin* has not so much as a single village in it of ten houses; yet from its *Latin* name *Albania*, has often given the title of duke to some of the royal family: it is seated very near the centre of *Scotland*; and is alleged to be the highest ground in it, for that the rivers, which rise here, are said to run every way from this part, some into the eastern, and some into the western seas.

The *Grampian Mountains* here are said to cut through *Scotland*. As the country is rough, and uncultivated, the inhabitants are an hardy race of men, who make excellent foldiers, when they are listed abroad in regular and disciplined troops; and I must add, that they are much civilized to what they were formerly. These mountains abound with flocks of black cattle, sheep, horses, and goats. The beef and mutton are of delicious taste, and the wool is valued for its whiteness and softness.

The duke has also another seat in *Strathern*, which is called *Tullibardin*, and which gives title of marquis to the eldest son of the house of *Athol*. At the lower part of this country the river *Ern* falls into the *Tay*, and greatly increases its waters. This river rises to the west, on the frontiers of the western *Highlands* near *Glengyl*, and running through that pleasant country called *Strathern*, falls into the *Tay* below *St. Johnstone*.

Soon after the *Ern* shoots forth from the mountain it spreads itself into a *Loch*, as most of the rivers do, called *Lochern*; and then runs by *Dupplin Castle*,



seat of the earl of *Kinnoul*, whose eldest son is thence called lord *Dupplin*. The late earl of *Kinnoul*, when lord *Dupplin*, married the daughter of the earl of *Oxford*, when lord high-treasurer of *England*, and was, on that occasion, made a peer of *Great Britain*, by the title of lord *Hay of Pedwarden*. His estate here is a very good one; but not attended with vassals and superiorities, as the duke of *Atbol's* is. The several owners of this seat, having been pretty much used to reside in it, have adorned it at several times, each according to his particular genius. It has lately received a new decoration, two wings being added for offices, as well as ornament.

The old building is spacious, the rooms large and ceilings lofty, filled with furniture suitable to its outward magnificence, particularly with abundance of fine paintings.

*Dupplin Castle* is remarkable also for the greatest defeat the *Scots* ever received from the *English*, in the reign of *Edward Baliol*, whom the *English* came to assist. In this battle 80 of the family of *Lindsay* perished, and of the family of *Hay* so many, that the name had been extinguished, had not the chief left his lady with child.

From this place we went to *Brechin* in *Angus*, formerly mentioned, an ancient town, with a castle finely situated: but the grandeur of it is lost; the family of *Panmure*, to whom it belonged chiefly, having forfeited it in the rebellion in 1715.

Here I shall mention the cataract near *Blair Drummond* on the *Keith*, which empties itself into the *Tay*, and makes so great a noise among the rocks, that it stuns those who come near it.

We are now, after a long mountain-ramble, come down to the *Lowlands* and into a pleasant and agreeable country; but as we had yet another journey to take

take westward, we had a like prospect of a rude and wild part of *Scotland* to go through.

The *Highlands* of *Scotland* may be divided into two parts, the *West Highlands* and the *North Highlands*; the latter I have spoken of at large, containing the counties of *Athol*, *Lochaber*, *Badenoch*, *Strathspey*, *Inverness*, *Ross*, *Sutherland*, and *Strathnaver*, together with the *Isles* of *Sky*, *Lewis*, &c.

The *West Highlands* contain the shires or counties of *Dunbritton* or *Dunbarton*, alias *Lenox*, *Buteshire*, and *Argyle*, which last contains the district of *Cowal*, *Knapdale*, *Lorn*, and *Cantyr*; the *Isles* of *Mull*, *Jura*, *Isla*, &c.

*Braidalbin* is sometimes reckoned a part of the *North*, and sometimes of the *West Highlands*.

On the banks of the river *Ern* lies a very pleasant vale, which continues from the *Tay*, quite up to the *Highlands*, called by *Claudian*, *Glacialis Ierne*; but now, according to the usage of *Scotland*, *Strathern*, or the *Vale of Ern*. It is an agreeable country, having many gentlemens seats on both sides the river; but being near the *Highlands*, has often suffered by depredations in former times.

In it are many *Roman* camps; particularly one at *Ardoch*; besides a *Roman* highway towards *Perth*. Several *Roman* medals have also been found there, and of late two *tabulae* curiously enamelled, with a sepulchral stone. The *Ochil-hills*, which run along the south parts of *Perthshire*, abound with metals and minerals; particularly they find good copper, and *lapis calimnaris*; and at *Glenlion*, they meet with lead. Here is great want of coal; but their excellent peat, and abundance of wool, supply that defect.

The family of *Montrose*, whose chief was sacrificed for the royal cause in the great rebellion, had a strong castle here, called *Kincardin*, which was demolished

in those wars, and is not rebuilt. The castle of *Drummond*, situated on the banks of the *Ern*, is almost in the same condition, being deserted by its owners. The two late earls of *Perth*, father and grandfather of the last earl, were forced into exile for adhering to the late king *James II.* and the Pretender. King *James* had the latter in such esteem, that he not only made him a duke, and knight of the garter, but governor to the Pretender.

The Western *Highlands*, properly so called, are the only remaining part of *Scotland*, which as yet I have not touched upon.

It is hard to say, whether the Northern or Western *Highlanders* make the best soldiers. It is certain, they both of them are defrauded of an honour due to them, when we attribute several gallant achievements to the *Irish* battalions abroad, which were performed by the *Scots*. Thus in particular it is said, the *Irish* troops beat the *Germans* out of *Cremona*, after they had got possession of the town, and had taken the *French* general, the marshal *Villeroy*, prisoner: that the *Irish* battalions in the *Spanish* service behaved gallantly in *Sicily*; and so on many extraordinary occasions. Now it is to be observed that these soldiers were most of them *Scots Highlanders* who, on all occasions, go over into *France*, and list among the *Irish* troops; nay, in the late wars, it has been observed, that whole regiments of *Highlanders* have been raised for the service; who, when they were got abroad, would take the first opportunity to desert and go over to the *French*, and so list in the *Irish* battalions, their original countrymen, and who still speak the same language. But in the late war, our administration had the address to employ whole regiments of these brave people, to much better and more loyal and truly *British* purposes.

One

One of the happy consequences of taking away the heritable jurisdiction, was the great number of *Scotch* who enlisted in the *British* armies.—If the amount of those who listed, were joined to those who formerly were obliged to watch their motions, the total would surprise a reader who never turned his thoughts to the subject.

Leaving the country about *Brechin*, and the *Lowlands* of *Strathern*, we went away west; but were presently interrupted by a vast inland sea, rather than a lake, called *Lochlomond*. It is indeed a sea, and looked like it from the hills from whence we first descried it. It contains 30 islands, three of which have churches, and several of the rest are inhabited. The chief is *Inchmurin*, about two miles and an half in length, fruitful in corn and grass, and abounds with deer, which the *Scottish* kings were accustomed to hunt there. The others most remarkable are, *Nachastel*, so called from the old castle in it; *Inchdavanan*, noted for broom, abundance of wild berries, pleasant habitations, gardens, and fruit-trees; *Inchennougen*, noted for birch-trees and corn-fields; *Inchnolaig*, noted for yew-trees, which grow no where else in these islands; and *Rouglass*, where the laird of *Macfarlan* has an handsome seat on the east side of the lake. *Kilmarnock*, a fine seat, once belonging to the earls of *Cassils*, but now to the earl of *Dundonald*; *Buchan* castle, and several others.

This lake, or loch, is one of the largest in *Scotland*, being more than 20 miles long, and generally eight miles in breadth; though, at the north end of it, not near so broad. It receives many rivers into it, but empties itself into the *Firth of Clyde*, at one mouth.

This lake abounds with fish of several sorts, particularly a sort called poans, and by some pollocks, peculiar to it; a kind of eel, very delicious to eat. This gave occasion to the mistake of authors, who said this lake

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lake had fish without fins. So the beams fastened together in some places of the lake, by the inhabitants, and covered with turf, for them to have recourse to in time of war, and to move from part to part, gave rise to the fable of floating islands here.

In the beginning of *November, 1755, Lochlomond*, in the neighbourhood of *Dunbarton*, rose on a sudden, in a perfect calm, to a most unusual height; the waters forcing their way over considerable tracts of ground, where they had never been seen in the memory of man; and again, in a moment or two, retiring with as much violence to as unusual an ebb; and thus ebbing and flowing for some hours together, till at last, they gradually retired to their ordinary limits, leaving boats forty yards from them on dry ground, and some of them on the top of a pier three or four feet perpendicular, above any height to which the waters had been known to rise. Nothing uncommon was felt or heard upon land; but, on the contrary, a remarkable calm was over all the country round.

The famous *Grampian* mountains begin near this lake, and run northward towards *Aberdeen*.

The county of *Lenox*, on which this lake lies, is in length about 24 miles, and in breadth about 20. The lower part is very fertile in corn; the higher is hilly, moorish, and more fit for pasture. It is the paternal estate and property of the *Stuarts*, and extends itself from both sides the *Levin*; which is the river that enters the *Lochlomond* into the *Clyde*. On this side, eastward, *Lenox* joins to *Monteith*, which is part of *Perthshire*, and runs up for some length on the east side of the *Loch*; and on the west-side it extends to the edge of the *Lochlaing*; and a great way north, almost to the mountains of *Lochaber*.

*Dunbarton* is the county town of *Lennoxshire*. It was once considerable for its trade, which is now much decayed;

decayed; but is still remarkable for its castle, one of the strongest by nature in *Europe*; being secured by the river on one side, the *Firth of Clyde* on the other, by an impassable morass on the third, and the fourth is a precipice.

The *Roman* wall, which begins at *Abercorn*, runs through this county, and ends at *Kilpatrick* on *Clyde*, a regality of the lord *Blantyre's*.

We now entered the large and extended country of *Argyle*, part of the *West Highlands*, commonly called the shire of *Inverary*, from the principal town, where the duke of *Argyle* has his residence. It is 120 miles long, and 40 broad. It joins to *Perthshire* on the east, to *Lochaber* on the north-east, to the isles on the north-west, and to the *Irish* sea on the south.

At *Inverary* the duke of *Argyle* has built a stately palace, on purpose to indicate what, in so advantageous a situation, posterity might do for enlarging and embellishing the town, when industry shall have improved the country round about; and the inhabitants from its produce and its fishery, for which it is already very justly famous, have made it, what nature seems to have designed it, the centre of the commerce of the western coast, and of the isles.

A woollen manufactory has been established at *Inverary*, under the patronage of the duke of *Argyle*, and several of the gentlemen in the country. The duke not only subscribed very liberally, but also built all the necessary houses for carrying on the different branches of the manufacture, and made a present to the company of all the utensils and implements proper for that purpose. If this patriotic undertaking succeeds, of which there is little doubt, it will be of great advantage, for affording a ready market for the wool in the country, of which there is now a greater quantity than formerly; the *Highland* gentlemen having found it necessary to convert great part of their estates into sheep

farms.

farms. Before this copartnery commenced, the duke of *Argyle* carried on, at his own expence, a woollen manufactory in this town, whereby a number of superannuated people and children were enabled to live comfortably, who would otherwise have been a burthen to themselves and their country. Last year, 1776, the duke, and some patriotic gentlemen, subscribed 2000*l.* to make a road of a few miles in *Argyleshire*, for which the statute labour was not sufficient. These instances of true patriotism are mentioned with a view to incite other noblemen and gentlemen to imitate so worthy an example.

*Kintyre* is a peninsula, which runs 30 miles out into the *Irish* sea, and is no more than 13, some say 16, miles from *Ireland*. *Campbell town* made a royal burgh by king *William*, with a safe harbour for ships, lies in this county.

*Knapdale* joins to *Kintyre* on the north, by a narrow neck of land, scarce a mile over, through which the people of the country draw their small vessels, to avoid sailing round *Kintyre*. It abounds with lakes and bays, several of which contain islands and castles; and the soil is generally fitter for pasturage than cultivation.

*Lorn* is the pleasantest and most fruitful part of the shire of *Argyle*. The castle of *Dunstaffnage* stands in this county, formerly a royal seat, where several of the ancient kings are buried. The family of *Campbell* was made earls by king *James II.* of *Scotland*. They were long time Lords Justices General of the kingdom; but surrendered that office to king *Charles I.* on a valuable equivalent, besides having the jurisdiction of the *Argyle* and the isles; and are still great masters of the king's household in *Scotland*. They derive their surname from the castle of *Campbell*; and, according to *Hamden*, their pedigree from the ancient kings of *Argyle*, by a long series of ancestors. The earl of *Loudon*,  
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the earl of *Braidalbin*, and other great men, are of this family.

The whole shire of *Argyle*, taking in the above parts, has seven bays of the sea entering into it, called by the inhabitants, *Lochs*; the chief is *Lochsyn*, famous for the number and goodness of its herrings: it is said to be about 40 miles in length, and the narrowest place about four in breadth. *Lochew*, according to bishop *Lefsy*, is almost as large as *Lochlomond*, and contains 12 islands, in one of which is the castle of *Enconel*, in another that of *Gleruqubart* and, where it enters the sea, abounds with salmon. The sea coast of *Argyle*, or as far as *Lochsyn*, abounds with high rocks, and black mountains covered with heath, which afford pasturage for black cattle and deer. The black cattle run for the most part wild, but are excellent meat; and their fat, when boiled, does not congeal, as others, but continues for some days like oil. The inhabitants make great profits of them by selling them to the *Lowlanders*.

From the *Mull* of *Kintyre* you see *Ireland* very plain, it being not above 15 or 16 miles from the point of land, which they call the *Mull*, to the *Fair Foreland*, on the coast of *Colrain*, on the North of *Ireland*.

As I have given accounts of several public charities, and other laudable institutions, in the southern parts of *Britain*, it would be inexcusable not to mention the society in *Scotland*, for propagating Christian knowledge in the *Highlands*, it being one of the worthiest designs of the present age.

In the year 1701, some gentlemen of *Edinburgh* first formed the plan of civilizing and reforming the natives of the *Highlands*, who then lived in a state of barbarity. The establishing schools at convenient places, appeared to them as the only method of succeeding in this laudable attempt. In these schools,

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the youth were to be taught the *English* tongue, and to be instructed in the principles of the Christian religion, as the only means of disposing their minds to the practice of virtue and industry. I am sorry I do not find the names of those gentlemen mentioned, at least in the account now before me.

An undertaking of this nature was soon found to be too extensive for private individuals to carry to that extent the necessity of the business required. Queen Anne was therefore applied to, who readily granted her patronage to so noble and generous an undertaking, and incorporated the society.

In the year 1710, they began to settle schools in such places as had never been reformed from heathenism; and their capital stock having yearly increased by the liberal contributions of many persons of all ranks in Great Britain, which they have laid out upon good security, they have encreased their schools in proportion. Great care is taken that the schoolmasters are men of probity, capacity, and well affected to the government; and they are obliged, besides teaching the children in the schools, to instruct those in the principles of religion, who are too old to come to school, and at too great a distance from the church. Many popish parents have permitted their children to be instructed.

King George the first lent a helping hand to the promotion of this laudable society, and his late majesty gave 1000 l. *per annum* to extend it, which, I believe, is continued by his successor to the crown, his present majesty.

Before I quit the *Higblands* it may not be improper to describe the dress, character, amusements, &c. of the natives, as given by Mr. Pennant, and some other curious travellers, on whose candour and veracity we may safely depend.

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Their *brechan*, or plaid, consists of twelve or thirteen yards of narrow stuff, wrapt round the middle, and reaches to the knees. It is often fastened round the middle with a belt, and is then called *brechan-feal*; and in cold weather, it is large enough to wrap round the whole body from head to foot; and this often is the only cover, not only within doors, but on the open hills during the whole night. It is frequently fastened on the shoulder with a pin, often of silver, and before with a *broche*, like the *tibula* of the *Romans*, which is sometimes of silver, and both long and expensive. The old ones have very frequently mottoes.

The stockings are short, and tied below the knee. The *cuoranen* is a sort of laced shoe made of a skin, with the hairy side out, but now seldom worn. The *truish* were worn by the gentry, and were breeches and stockings made of one piece.

The *filebeg*, that is, little plaid, also called *kelt*, is a sort of short petticoat, reaching only to the knees, and is a modern substitute for the lower part of the plaid, being found to be less cumbersome, especially in time of action, when the *Highlanders* used to tuck their *brechan* into their girdle. Almost all have a great pouch of badger and other skins, with tassels dangling before. In this they kept their tobacco and money.

Their ancient arms were the *Lochaber* ax, now used by none but the town guard of *Edinburgh*. It is a tremendous weapon, better to be expressed by a figure than words.

They likewise used the broad sword and target; with the latter they covered themselves, and with the first reached their enemies at a great distance. These were their ancient weapons; but, since the disarming act, they are scarcely met with. Partly owing to that, and partly to the spirit of industry now arising among them, the *Highlanders*, in a few years, will scarcely know the use of any weapon.

Bows and arrows were used in war as late as the middle of the last century, as I find in the manuscript life of Sir *Ewin Cameron*.

The *dirk* was a sort of dagger stuck in the belt. I frequently saw this weapon in the shambles of *Inverness*, converted into a butcher's knife. The *dirk* was a weapon used by the ancient *Caledonians*; for *Dion Cassius*, in his account of the expedition of *Severus*, mentions it under the name of *pugio*.

The *matucashlash*, or arm-pit dagger, was worn here ready to be used on coming to close quarters. These, with a pistol stuck in their girdle, completely armed the *Highlanders*.

It will not be improper here to mention the method the chieftains formerly took to assemble the clans for any military expedition. In every clan there is a known place of rendezvous, stiled *Caru-a-whin*, to which they must resort on this signal. A person is sent out full speed with a pole burnt at one end and bloody at the other, and with a cross at the top, which is called *cross-tairie*, the cross of shame, or the fiery cross: the first, from the disgrace they would undergo if they declined appearing; the second, from the penalty of having fire and sword carried through their country in case of refusal. The first bearer delivers it to the next person he meets, he running full speed to the third, and so on. In the late rebellion, it was sent by some unknown disaffected hand through the county of *Braidalbane*, and passed through a track of 32 miles in three hours, but without effect.

The womens dress is the *kirch*, or a white piece of linen, pinned over the foreheads of those that are married, and round the hind part of the head, falling behind over their necks. The single women wear only a ribbon round their head, which they call a *snood*. The *tanac*, or plaid, hangs over their shoulders, and is fastened before with a *brache*; but, in bad weather

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it is drawn over their heads. In the county of *Braidalbane*, many wear, when in high dress, a great platted stocking, of an enormous length, called *essan*. In other respects, their dress resembles that of women of the same rank in *England*; but their condition is very different, they being little better than slaves to our sex.

The manners of the native *Highlanders* may, says Mr. *Pennant*, be justly expressed in these words: indolent to a high degree, unless roused to war, or to any animating amusement; or, I may say from experience, to lend any disinterested assistance to the distressed traveller, either in directing him on his way, or affording their aid in passing the dangerous torrents of the *Highlands*. They are hospitable to the highest degree, and full of generosity; are much affected with the civility of strangers, and have in themselves a natural politeness and address, which often flows from the meanest when least expected. Through my whole tour, I never met with a single instance of national reflection! This forbearance proves them to be superior to the meanness of retaliation. They are excessively inquisitive after your business, your name, and other particulars of little consequence to them. They are most curious after the politics of the world, and when they can procure an old newspaper, will listen to it with all the avidity of *Shakspeare's* blacksmith. They have much pride, and consequently are impatient of affronts; and revengeful of injuries; are decent in their general behaviour, inclined to superstitions, yet attentive to the duties of religion, and are capable of giving a most distinct account of their faith. In many parts of the *Highlands*, their characters begin to be more faintly marked; they mix more with the world, and become daily less attached to their chiefs. The clans begin to disperse themselves through different parts of the country, finding that their industry and good conduct afford them better protection, (since the

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due execution of the laws) than any their chieftain can afford; and the chieftain, tasting the sweets of advanced rents, and the benefits of industry, dismisses from his table the crowds of retainers, the former instruments of his oppression and freakish tyranny.

Most of the ancient sports of the *Highlanders*, such as archery, hunting, fowling, and fishing, are now disused: those retained are, throwing the *putting* stone, or stone of *strength*, as they call it, which occasion an emulation who can throw a weighty one the farthest: throwing the *penny* stone, which answers to our coits: the *shinty*, or the striking a ball of wood or of hair. This game is played between two parties in a large plain, and furnished with clubs: which ever side strikes it first to their own goal wins the match.

The amusements by their fire-sides were, the telling of tales, the wildest and most extravagant imaginable: music was another. In former times, the harp was the favourite instrument, covered with leather, and strung with wire; but, at present, it is quite lost. Bagpipes are supposed to have been introduced by the *Danes*: the oldest are played with the mouth, the loudest and most ear-piercing of any wind music. The other, played with the fingers only, are of *Irish* origin. The first suited the genius of this warlike people, roused their courage to battle, alarmed them when secure, and collected them when scattered. This instrument is become scarce since the abolition of the power of the chieftains, and the more industrious turn of the common people.

Vocal music was very much in vogue among them, and their songs were chiefly in praise of their ancient heroes. I was told, that they still have fragments of the story of *Fingal* and others, which they carrol as they go along. These vocal traditions are the foundation of the works of *Ossian*.

It would be unpardonable here to omit Dr. Beattie's description of the *Highlands*, and his remarks on the *second sight* of the inhabitants.

"The *Highlands* of Scotland (says the doctor) are picturesque, but, in general, a melancholy country. Long tracts of mountainous desert, covered with dark heath, and often obscured by misty weather; narrow vallies thinly inhabited, and bounded by precipices, resounding with the fall of torrents; a soil so rugged, and a climate so dreary, as, in many parts, to admit neither the amusements of pasturage, nor the labours of agriculture; the mournful dashing of waves along the firths and lakes that intersect the country; the portentous noises which every change of the wind, and every encrease and diminution of the waters, are apt to raise in a lonely region full of echoes, and rocks, and caverns; the grotesque and ghastly appearance of such a landscape by the light of the moon: objects like these diffuse a gloom over the fancy, which may be compatible enough with occasional and social merriment, but cannot fail to tincture the thoughts of a native in the hour of silence and solitude.

"If these people, notwithstanding their reformation in religion, and more frequent intercourse with strangers, do still retain many of their superstitions, we need not doubt, but in former times they must have been much more enslaved to the horrors of imagination, when beset with the bugbears of popery, and the darkness of paganism. Most of their superstitions are of a melancholy cast: that *second sight* wherewith some of them are supposed to be haunted, is considered by themselves as a misfortune, on account of the many dreadful images it is said to obtrude upon the fancy. I have been told, that the inhabitants of some of the *Alpine* regions do likewise lay claim to a sort of second sight. Nor is it wonderful, that persons of lively imagination, immured in deep solitude, and

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surrounded with the stupendous scenery of clouds, precipices, and torrents, should dream, even when they think themselves awake, of those few striking ideas with which their lonely lives are diversified; of corpses, funeral processions, and other subjects of terror; or of marriages, and the arrival of strangers, and such like matters of more agreeable curiosity.

“ Let it be observed also, that the ancient *Highlanders* of *Scotland* had hardly any other way of supporting themselves than by hunting, fishing, or war—professions that are continually exposed to fatal accidents: and hence, no doubt, additional horrors would often haunt their solitude, and a deeper gloom overshadow the imagination of the hardiest native.

“ I do not find sufficient evidence for the reality of *second sight*, or at least of what is commonly understood by that term. A treatise on the subject was published in the year 1762, in which many tales were told of persons, whom the author believed to have been favoured, or haunted, with these illuminations; but most of the tales were trifling and ridiculous, and the whole work betrayed, on the part of the compiler, such extreme credulity, as could not fail to prejudice many readers against his system.

“ That any of these visionaries are liable to be swayed in their declarations by sinister views, I will not say; though a gentleman of character assured me, that one of them offered to sell him this unaccountable talent for half a crown. But this I think may be said with confidence, that none but ignorant people pretend to be gifted in this way. And in them it may be nothing more, perhaps, than short fits of sudden sleep or drowsiness, attended with lively dreams, and arising from some bodily disorder, the effects of idleness, low spirits, or a gloomy imagination: for it is admitted, even by the most credulous *Highlanders*, that as knowledge and industry are propagated in their country,

the second sight disappears in proportion; and nobody ever laid claim to this faculty, who was much employed in the intercourse of social life. Nor is it at all extraordinary, that one should have the appearance of being awake, and should even think one's self so, during these fits of dosing; or that they should come on suddenly, and while one is engaged in some business. The same thing happens to persons much fatigued, or long kept awake, who frequently fall asleep for a moment, or for a longer space, while they are standing, or walking, or riding on horseback. Add but a lively dream to this slumber, and (which is the frequent effect of disease) take away the consciousness of having been asleep, and a superstitious man, who is always hearing and believing tales of second sight, may easily mistake his dream for a waking vision, which, however, is soon forgotten, when no subsequent occurrence recalls it to his memory; but which, if it shall be thought to resemble any future event, exalts the *poor dreamer* into a *Highland* prophet. This conceit makes him more recluse and more melancholy than ever, and so feeds his disease, and multiplies his visions, which, if they are not dissipated by business or society, may continue to haunt him as long as he lives, and which, in their progress through the neighbourhood, receive some new tincture of the marvellous from every mouth that promotes this circulation.

“As to the prophetic nature of this second sight, it cannot be admitted at all. That the Deity should work a miracle, in order to give intimation of the frivolous things that these tales are made up of, the arrival of a stranger, the nailing of a coffin, or the colour of a suit of cloaths, and that these intimations should be given for no end, and to those persons only who are idle and solitary, who speak *Erse*, or who live among mountains and deserts, is like nothing in Nature or Providence that we are acquainted with; and must  
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therefore, unless it were confirmed by satisfactory proof, (which is not the case) be rejected as absurd and incredible.

“ The visions, such as they are, may reasonably enough be ascribed to a distempered fancy; and that in them, as well as in our ordinary dreams, certain appearances should, on some rare occasions, resemble certain events, is to be expected from the laws of chance, and seems to have in it nothing more marvellous or supernatural, than that the parrot, who deals out his scurrilities at random, should sometimes happen to salute the passenger by his right appellation.”

We cannot close this letter without observing, what Mr. Pennant, in his *Tour in Scotland*, has enabled us to notice, that strict fidelity is the distinguishing character of the *Highlanders*. Two instances, taken from different periods, will be sufficient proof of the high degree, in which they possess this shining virtue. In the reign of *James V.* when the *Glen-chattan* had raised a dangerous insurrection, attended with all the barbarities usual in those days, the earl of *Murray* raised his people, suppressed the insurgents, and ordered 200 of the principal prisoners to execution. As they were led one by one to the gallows, the earl offered them a pardon, in case they would discover the lurking-place of their chieftain; but they unanimously told him, that, were they acquainted with it, no sort of punishment should ever induce them to be guilty of a breach of trust to their leader.

The other example is taken from more recent and mercenary days. In the year 1746, when the young Pretender preferred the preservation of an unhappy life by an inglorious flight, to the honour of falling heroically, with his faithful followers, in the field of *Culloden*, he for five months led the life of a fugitive, amidst a numerous and various set of mountaineers. He often trusted his person to the lowest and most dis-

# 246 HEBRIDES, OR

solute of the people, to men pinched with poverty, or accustomed to robbery and rapine; yet neither the fear of punishment for assisting the wretched wanderer, nor the dazzling allurements of the reward of 30,000*l.* could even prevail on any one to violate the laws of hospitality, or be guilty of a breach of trust. They extricated him out of every difficulty, they completed his deliverance, preserving his life for mortifications more afflicting than the dreadful hardships he suffered during his long flight.

## L E T T E R V.

*Containing a particular DESCRIPTION of the Isle of Man, and of the Scottish Isles, both Western and Northern.*

**I** SHALL now proceed to give as brief and accurate an account, as I can give, of the islands of most considerable note, lying adjacent, or belonging to this northern part of the island of *Great Britain*; beginning, first, with

### *The Western Isles of SCOTLAND.*

**T**HESE islands lie in the *Ducaledonian* sea, and were called by some, *Hebrides*. The most southern of them is the *Isle of Man*; which, from its situation, is very beneficial to *Great Britain*, by lessening the force of the tides, which would otherwise break upon their coasts with far greater violence than they do at present. In reference to its own advantage, this position is likewise exceedingly commodious.

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# WESTERN ISLES. 247

dious, as from thence it becomes the centre of the *British* isles, lying seven leagues west from *Lancashire*, nearly the like south-east from *Galloway*, and nine leagues east from *Ireland*, so that we cannot conceive a place more happily situated for trade to all these parts, or better disposed for more extensive commerce, especially to *Spain* and the *Mediterranean*, to the south; and northwards again to all parts of *America*.

With regard to form, it is long and narrow, stretching from the north-east point of *Air* to the *Calf of Man*, which lies south-west, at least 30 *English* miles. In breadth, from *Peele Castle* to *Douglas Point*, better than nine miles, in most places eight, in some not five; between 70 and 80 in extent, and comprehending about 160 square miles: it is equal to the *Isle of Wight*; surpassing it in its size, by a third, *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, and all the adjacent isles; superior to any of the *Leeward* islands; very little inferior to *Guadaloupe*, and twice as big as *St. Helena*.

The air is sharp, as may be expected from the openness of the country; but the winters are not severe. Frosts happen seldom, and are of no great continuance, neither does snow lie long upon the ground; but they are frequently exposed to high winds, and at other seasons to mists, which, though they may be a little offensive, are not at all unwholesome.

The soil towards the north is dry and sandy, consequently unfertile, but not unimprovable. The mountains, which may include near two-thirds of the island, are bleak and barren, yet not either worthless or useless; for they afford excellent peat, contain in their bowels several kinds of metals, and maintain a peculiar breed of small swine, called *purrs*, which are esteemed excellent pork. In the vallies there are as good pastures, hay, and corn, as any of the northern counties; and as for the southern part of the isle, it is as fine ground as can be wished. Some of their

mountains are remarkably high, such as the two *Barrowls*, *Skeyall*, the watch Hill of *Knockalaw*, but above all *Sceafel*, *Sneafield*, or *Snawfeldt*, from the summit of which the coasts of *England*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *Wales*, may be plainly discerned. Few countries can boast of more brooks and rivulets, over several of which there are stone bridges, or of better water; and from hence also they derive the conveniency of mills for grinding their corn, and for the use of the woollen manufacture.

The produce of this island furnishes all the necessities, and, with due attention and application, might supply all the conveniences of life. They have the best sort of peat in abundance, which supplies the want of coals. They have marle and lime-stone sufficient to render even their poorest lands fertile; admirable slate, rag stone, black marble, and some other kinds for building; lead, iron, and copper, which might turn to great advantage. They have vegetables of all sorts, and in the utmost perfection; potatoes in immense quantities, and, where proper pains have been taken, they have tolerable fruit; to which we may add some hemp and flax. Large crops of oats, and the like also of barley, which makes good malt, and some wheat, hogs, sheep, goats, black cattle, and horses, they have in plenty, and though small in size, yet with due care, and, if the country were thoroughly and skilfully cultivated, they might improve the breed of all these animals, as experience in some instances has shewn. Rabbits and hares, which are singularly fat and fine; tame and wild fowl in plenty. Their rivers furnish them with salmon, trout, eels, and other kinds of fresh-water fish; on their coasts are caught cod, turbot, ling, halibut, and all sorts of shell-fish, oysters excepted, which are scarce, but large and good, and herrings, of which they ancient-

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ly made a great profit, though this fishery is of late much declined.

The commodities of *Man* are not many in number, and few or none of any great value. Their slates are esteemed not inferior to any; their black marble is very hard, and bears a fine polish; and they occasionally export some of each, as they formerly did a little grain, and a considerable quantity of ale; but of late years both have been found hardly equal to their home consumption. The rest are lambs wool, hides, tallow, fish, oil, wax, and honey. They are allowed, by act of Parliament, to send over 600 head of black cattle to the port of *Chester*.

In respect to manufactures, they have both woollen and linen, which however turn but to very small account. With regard to the former, they make a kind of cloth of a buff colour, without dying, of what is called *Laughton* wool, from a particular breed of sheep, of which they take little care, otherwise they might have much more of it. In reference to the latter, both fine and coarse linens are wove here, but in no great quantities. In former times, they depended chiefly on their herring fishery, and are said to have exported annually 20,000 barrels of these fish to *France*.

The town of *Douglas*, anciently and better written *Dufglas*, on the east side of the isle, is the largest, richest, and most frequented place in *Man*. It has a good port secured by a mole, where ships of a considerable burthen may lie safe; and, of late years, there have been great improvements made, and many cellars, warehouses, and other conveniences, for the reception of goods; but the streets are still narrow, and in that respect troublesome.

*Ramsfay*, now called *Derby Haven*, covered by a fort built in *St. Michael's* island, is convenient enough for small vessels, and without there is a good road,

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where large ships may ride safe from north or west winds, in 10, 12, or 14 fathom water.

About a mile from hence stands *Castletown*, so called from *Castle Ruffyn*, which is accounted the capital of the isle, because the governor and most of the lords officers reside there. It has also a creek, which serves as a port for small vessels, and a bay without that, but foul and unsafe.

*Peele*, or *Holm*, on the west side of the island, was formerly remarkable only for its cathedral, and castle on a rock, which is very strong, and in which there is a small garrison; but now the place is much enlarged, many new houses built, and has a brisk flourishing trade.

*Ramsæa*, on the north-east side of the island, has a very spacious bay, where the largest ships may ride safe from most winds, and not liable to be embayed by any. It is generally a high land upon the sea-coasts, defended by rocks lying out as far as low-water mark: on the north-east shore it is a bold coast and beach.

The inhabitants of *Man*, though far from being unmixed, were perhaps, till within the course of the current century, more so than any other under the dominion of the crown of *Great Britain*; to which, though they are subjects, and very proud of being such, as well as the people of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, yet like them they have a constitution, laws, and language of their own, and a peculiarity of manners, naturally resulting from the long enjoyment of their privileges. In ancient times, they were distinguished by their stature, courage, and skill in maritime affairs; for in those days they had a considerable foreign commerce, and a fleet, which would appear insignificant indeed in our times, but was very respectable then, in comparison of the naval force of neighbouring nations.

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They are at this day, a brisk, lively, hardy, industrious, and well-meaning people. Their frugality defends them from want; and though there are few in affluence, yet there are still less in distress, and those that are, meet with a chearful and unconstrained relief. On the other hand, they are choleric, loquacious, and as law is cheap and unincumbered, at least till of late years, with attornies and sollicitors, not a little litigious. A tolerable education, a strict civil government, and a more strict church discipline, ripen good habits into virtues, and restrain their vices within due bounds.

As to the revenue arising to the lord of *Man*, it was looked upon as certain, that the earl of *Derby's* settled standing rents, his casualties, and his customs upon the goods requisite for the use of the natives, might amount to 2,500*l.* a year, from whence deducting his civil list, which rose to about 700*l.* there remained 1,800*l. per annum* clear: the number of his subjects was computed at 20,000.

There is no doubt, that in ancient times, the inhabitants of this island must have possessed a very extensive commerce, otherwise they could not have had either arts, wealth, or a potent fleet; and there is as little room to doubt, that as these advantages were acquired by, so they gradually decayed with the loss of their commerce, which brought the people into a state of abject poverty.

*James* earl of *Derby*, being himself in the island, considering its situation, and contemplating its other natural advantages, was so sensible of this, and so much affected by it, that he assured his son, he would rather mortgage and sell some of his lands in *England*, than not execute the schemes he had formed, for restoring the trade of *Man*. He wisely foresaw, that this would be equally beneficial to his subjects and his family; that it would excite the people to im-

prove their lands, encourage the setting up of manufactures, and quicken every species of industry among them; but the disorders of the times, for this was at the beginning of the civil wars, defeated his good intentions; nor does it appear that they were resumed, or at least resumed to any purpose, by his successors.

It is little more than half a century ago, when the fatal practice of smuggling was brought in, which has been making a very rapid progress ever since; and as every where else, so in this island, it has been attended with a numerous train of the most mischievous consequences. It was first introduced by foreign vessels landing their cargoes here, in order to elude the laws made for the benefit of *British* commerce, and by these means immense sums have been drained from these kingdoms. The goods thus landed are, from the convenient position of the isle, exported again in prodigious quantities, in barks and boats, into *Wales, England, and Scotland*, to the almost incomputable detriment of the revenue of the crown, and to the extreme prejudice also of the fair trader. But independent of these injuries to their fellow-subjects, it seems also to be in a fair way of becoming destructive to the island itself, by corrupting the manners of the inhabitants, and divesting them of all thoughts of honest improvements. It is very possible, that the computations made of the losses sustained by these practices, may be much exaggerated, since these have been swelled to upwards of half a million *per annum*\*.

The isle of *Bute* is about twenty measured miles long; the breadth unequal, perhaps the greatest is five miles. It is fruitful in corn and pasturage. It has a

\* In a memorial laid before the lords of the Treasury, many years ago, by the fair traders in *Cumberland*, it was stated at 400,000 *l. per annum*; but modern accounts, how truly I know not, carry it higher than even what is above mentioned. *Campbell's Political Survey of Great Britain*.

## WESTERN ISLES. 253

royal burgh, called *Rothsay*, with an ancient castle. From this the royal family of *Stuart* is supposed to derive its origin : and duke of *Rothsay* is now one of the titles of the prince of *Wales*. It has another castle, called the castle of *Kermes*, and four churches. This island lies in the mouth of the *Clyde*, eight miles west from *Arran*; and is remarkable for its herring fishing. The isle of *Bute* gives title of earl to a branch of the noble family of *Stuart*, who is the chief proprietor, and heretable coroner of the island, and has a seat at *Rosa*; as *Callartine* has at *Kermes*; and *Stuart of Ascog* another. Queen *Mary*, before she married lord *Darnley*, conferred upon him the title of duke of *Rothsay*. Near *Bute* are two small islands, called *Great* and *Little Cumbrays*, the property of the earl of *Glasgow*.

The seat of the earl of *Bute* (says Mr. *Pennant*) is a modern building, with a handsome front and wings : the situation very fine, on an eminence in the midst of a wood, where trees grow with as much vigour as in the more southern parts, and extend far beneath on each side. Thrushes, and other birds of song, fill the groves with their melody : nothing disturbs their harmony ; for instinct, often stronger than reason, forbids them to quit these delicious shades, and wander, like their unhappy master, into the ungrateful wilds of ambition.

The air is in general temperate : no mists or thick rolling fogs from the sea, (called in the north a *baile*) ever infested this island. Snow is scarcely ever known to lie here ; and even that of last winter, (1771) so remarkable for its depth and duration in other places, was in this island scarcely two inches deep. The evils of this place are winds and rains, the last coming in deluges from the west.

When the present earl of *Bute* came to his estate, the farms were possessed by a set of men, who carried  
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on, at the same time, the profession of husbandry and fishing, to the manifest injury of both. His lordship drew a line between these two incongruent employs, and obliged each to carry on the business he preferred, distinct from the other; yet, in justice to the old farmers, notice must be taken of their skill in ploughing, even in their rudest days; for the ridges were strait, and the ground laid out in a manner that did them much credit. This new arrangement, with the example given by his lordship of enclosing; by the encouragement of burning lime for some, and by transporting *gratis* to the nearest market, the produce of all, has given to this island its present flourishing aspect. Such indisputable talents has his lordship for the government of little islands.

The isle of *Arran*, which with *Bute* makes up one sherriffdom, lies also in the mouth of the *Clyde*, 24 miles in length, and near 16 broad; fruitful in corn and pasturage. It is very well inhabited on the coast, and is a safe and good harbour, covered by *Lamlash*, or the *Holy-Isle*. It has two churches, and several castles, of which that of *Brodich* is the strongest and most noted, and is the residence of the *Hamilton* family, when in these parts: and the island gives title of earl to the duke of that name. The island has several rivers in it, which abound with salmon, as the sea about it does with herrings, cod, and whittings.

The climate of this island is very severe; for besides the violence of winds, the cold is very rigorous, and snow lies here in the vallies for many weeks together. In the summer, the air is remarkably salubrious, and many invalids resort here on that account, and to drink the whey of goat's milk.

The principal disease here is the pleurisy; small-pox, measles, and chin-cough visit the island once in seven or eight years. The practice of bleeding twice every year seems to have been intended as a preserva-

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tive against the pleurisy ; but it is now performed, with the utmost regularity, spring and fall. The duke of *Hamilton* keeps a surgeon in pay, who, at those seasons, makes a tour in the island. On notice of his approach, the inhabitants of each farm assemble in the open air, extend their arms, and are bled into a hole made in the ground, the common receptacle of the vital fluid.

The men are strong, tall, and well made ; all speak the *Erse* language, but the ancient habit is entirely laid aside. Their diet is chiefly potatoes and meal ; and, during winter, some dried mutton or goat is added to this hard fare. A deep dejection appears in general through the countenances of all : no time can be spared for amusement of any kind, the whole being given for procuring the means of paying their rent, of laying in their fuel, or getting a scanty pittance of meat and cloathing.

The method of letting a farm is very singular. Each is commonly possessed of a number of small tenants : thus a farm of 40*l.* a year is occupied by 18 different people, who by their leases are bound, conjunctly and severally, for the payment of the rent to the proprietor. They live on the farm in houses clustered together, so that each farm appears like a little village. The tenants annually divide the arable land by lot : each has his ridge of land, to which he puts his mark, such as he would do to any writing ; and this species of farm is called *run-rig*, that is ridge. They join in ploughing : every one keeps a horse or more ; and the number of these animals consume so much corn as often to occasion a scarcity, the corn and peas raised being, much of it, designed for their subsistence, and that of the cattle, during the long winter. The pasture and moor land annexed to the farm is common to all the possessors in general.

All the farms are open : inclosures of any form, except

except in two or three places, are quite unknown. So that there must be a great loss of time in preserving their corn, &c. from trespass. The usual manure is sea-plant, coral, and shells.

The *run-rig* farms are now discouraged; but since the tenements are set by *roup*, or auction, and advanced by an unnatural force to double the old rent without any allowance for enclosing, any example set in agriculture, or any security for tenure by lengthening the leases, affairs will turn retrograde, and the farms relapse into their old state of rudeness: migration will encrease, (for it has begun) and the rents be reduced even below their former value. The late rents were scarce 1,200 *l.* a year; the expected rent 3,000 *l.*

Hogs were first introduced here about the year 1772. The soil produces oats, peas, and potatoes.

The women manufacture the wool for the cloathing of their families; they set their potatoes, and dress and spin the flax. They make butter for exportation, and cheese for their own use.

The inhabitants in general are sober, religious, and industrious. Great part of the summer is employed in getting peat for fuel, the only kind in use here; or in building or repairing their houses, for the badness of the materials requires annual repairs. Before and after harvest they are busied in the herring fishery; and during the winter the men make their herring-nets, while the women are employed in spinning their linen and woollen yarn. The light they often use is that of lamps. From the beginning of *February* to the end of *May*, if the weather permits, they are engaged in labouring their ground; in autumn they burn a great quantity of fern to make kelp. So that excepting at new-year's day, at marriages, or at the two or three fairs in the island, they have no leisure

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for any amusements. No wonder then at the depression of their spirits!

On one part of the island, we descended through a narrow cleft of a rock to a part of the western shore, called *Druim-an-duin*, or the ridge of the fort, from a round tower that stands above. The beach is bounded by cliffs of whitish grit stone, hollowed beneath into vast caves. The most remarkable are those of *Fin-mac-cuil*, or *Fingal*, the son of *Cumbal*, the father of *Ossian*, who, tradition says, resided in this island for the sake of hunting; one of these caverns is 112 feet long, and thirty high, narrowing to the top like a *Gothic* arch; towards the end it branches into two. Within these two recesses, which penetrate far, are on each side several small holes, opposite to each other. In these were placed transverse beams, that held the pots, in which the heroes seethed their venison; or probably, according to the mode of the times, the bags formed of the skins of animals slain in the chase, which were filled with flesh, and served as kettles sufficiently strong to warm the contents; for the heroes of old devoured their meat half raw, maintaining, that the juices contained the best nourishment.

Near the isle of *Arran* is *Flada*, a small island, which abounds with rabbits.

South-west from *Bute* lies *Mernoch*, about a mile long, and half a mile broad, fruitful in corn.

Now we are upon the western-coasts, I shall mention, that, in the month of *August* 1740, an attempt was made by diving, to come at one of the largest ships of the *Spanish Armada*, stranded in 1588, on these coasts. Another was dived for some years ago; but the sand being loose, it turned to little or no account. The other, which was lost near *Portincross*, was begun to be searched after by Sir *Archibald Grant*, and captain *Roe*, in *August* 1740, and the following was the account that was transmitted to us; which we the rather

ther insert, as it gives some notion of the operation by the diving-engine.

The country-people had preserved, by tradition, the spot pretty near where she sunk, and gave them all the information they were able: immediately the divers went to work, and swept for her, which they do thus: they have a long line which they sink with leads, one end of the rope is fixed to one boat, and the other end to another; they row, and whatever interrupts them, the diver goes down to make a discovery. They soon happened on the place where the ship lay, which is scarce a quarter of a mile from the shore, in ten fathom and a foot water. Captain *Ra* immediately went down, and found the vessel to be very entire; to have a great number of guns on board, but to be full of sand. The first thing he fixed upon was a cannon, which lay upon the sand at the head of the ship: to this he fixed his tongs, which are made of strong bars of iron; they are open, when they are let down, and have teeth, which join into one another. As soon as they are fixed upon any thing, he gives the signal, when they are made to shut; and the heavier the subject, the closer they hold. The cannon was drawn up with a good deal of difficulty: it measures full nine feet, is of brass, greenish coloured, but nothing the worse. On the breech there is a *rose*, with an *E* on the one side, and an *R* on the other, with this inscription, *Richard and John Philips, brethren, made this piece, anno 1584*. But we may be allowed to observe, that by the *E. R.* on the cannon, which denotes *Eliz. Regina*, and the *rose*, as also the *English* inscription of the makers, it should seem to us, that it could not belong to the *Armada*; but rather to some *English* ship, that might have been cast away there. Ten of these brass cannon, and ten iron ones, have been since carried into *Dublin*; and they hope to recover 60 out of this ship. The guns were

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all charged, and the metal of some, by lying so long under water, moulders away like clay.

Several people have scraped the iron guns, which are as mouldy as bricks; and, by keeping the metal some time in their hands, it grows so hot, that they are not able to bear it; but when it is exposed two or three hours in open air, it loses all its burning quality. This is accounted for in the following manner, viz.

Dr. Tournefort, a *French* physician, in his *Voyage to the Levant*, part I. says, It is certain that the filings of iron, steeped in common water, will grow considerably warm, and much more so in sea-water. And, if you mingle therewith some sulphur powdered, you will really see this mixture burn.

Sir *Isaac Newton*, in his *Optics*, p. 354, says: That even the gross body of sulphur, powdered with an equal weight of iron filings, and a little water, made into a paste, acts upon the iron; and in five or six hours grows too hot to be touched, and emits a flame.

Now it is certain, that cast-iron contains a great deal of bitumen, or sulphur, in its composition; and that iron in its sensible quality effects heat, and cannot be perceived without the admission of air; which is the reason why the scrapings should grow hot, although the guns are actually cold to the touch.

We quitted the isle of *Arran*, weighed anchor, and going through the south passage of the harbour, got into the middle of the *Firth*. Here we had a magnificent view on all sides of *Arran* and *Lamlash*, and the coast of *Cantyre* on one side, and of the coast of *Cunningham* and *Carrick* on the other. In front lay the hills of *Galloway* and the coast of *Ireland*; and the vast crag of *Ailsa*, appearing here like an inclined haystack, rose in the midst of the channel. In our course, we left to the west the little and low island of *Plada*, opposite to, and as if rent from that of *Arran*.

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After a very tedious calm, we reached the crag of *Ailfa*, and anchored on the north-east, within fifty yards of the side, in twelve fathom of water, gravelly bottom. On this side is a small beach: all the rest is a perpendicular rock of an amazing height; but from the edges of the precipice, the mountain assumes a pyramidical form, and the whole circumference of the base is two miles. On the east side is a stupendous and amazing assemblage of precipitous columnar rocks of great height, rising in wild series one above the other. Beneath these, amidst the ruins that had fallen from time to time, are groves of elder trees, the only trees of the place, the sloping surface being almost entirely covered with fern and short grass.

The quadrupeds that inhabit this rock are goats and rabbits: the birds that nestle in the precipices are numerous as swarms of bees, and not unlike them in their flight to and from the crag. On the verge of the precipice dwell the gannets and the shags. Beneath are the guillamots, and the razor bills; and underneath them the grey gulls and kittiwaks, helped by their cry to fill the deafening chorus. The puffins made themselves burroughs above; the sea pies found a scanty place for their eggs near the base. Some land birds made this their haunt: among them ravens, hooded crows, pigeons, wheat ears, and rock larks, and what is wonderful, thrushes exerted the same melody in this scene of horror as they do in the grove of *Hertfordshire*.

Three reptiles appeared here very unexpectedly, the naked black snail, the common, and the striped shell snail: not volunteer inhabitants, but probably brought in the sallads of some visitants from the neighbouring shore.

This rock is the property of the earl of *Cassils*, who rents it for 33*l.* per annum to people, who come here to take the young gannets for the table, and the other

birds

birds for the sake of their feathers. The last are caught when the young birds are ready for their flight. The fowler ascends the rock with great hazard, is provided with a long rod, furnished at the end with a short hair line with a running noose. This he flings round the neck of the bird, hawls it up, and repeats it, till he takes ten or twelve dozen in an evening; but to what use these feathers were applied, we could not learn.

We landed on the beach, and found the ruins of a chapel, and the vestiges of places inhabited by fishermen, who resort here during the season for the capture of cod, which abound here from *January to April*, on the great bank, which begins a little south of *Arran*, passes this rock, and extends three leagues beyond. The fish, which are taken with long lines, are dried and then salted; but there are seldom sufficient caught for exportation.

With much difficulty we ascended to the castle, a square tower of three stories, each vaulted, placed pretty high on this only accessible part of the rock. The path is narrow, over a vast slope, so ambiguous that it wants but little of a true precipice: the walk is horrible, for the depth is alarming. It would have been thought, that nothing but an eagle would have fixed his habitation here; and it was probably some chieftain not less an animal of rapine. The only mark of civilization I saw in the castle was an oven: a conveniency which many parts of *North Britain* are yet strangers to.

We made a hearty dinner under the shade of the castle, and even at that height procured fine water from a spring within 100 yards of the place. The view of the bay of *Girvan*, in *Carrick*, within nine miles, and that of *Cambletown*, about 22, bounded each side of the *Firth*.

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The weather was so hot, that we did not ascend to the summit, which is said to be broad, and to have had on it a small chapel, designed (as is frequent on the promontories of foreign shores) for the devout seaman to offer up his prayers of supplication for a safe voyage, or of gratitude for a safe return.

Near the isle of *Bute* lie two islands, called *Cum-bra*, the *Greater* and *Lesser*; the first is about a mile in length, has a church in it, and a well, the waters of which are reckoned, by the natives, good against all diseases: the other island is less; and both belong to *Montgomery of Skelmerly*; the larger is fruitful in corn, and the smaller abounds with deer.

About a mile from the promontory of *Kintyre* lies *Avona*, which signifies a good harbour. The *Danes* came hither with their fleets, when they were masters of the isles.

The next remarkable island is *Gigaia*, four miles from *Kintyre*, six miles in length, and a mile and a half in breadth. The inhabitants are Protestants. There is a church in this island, and a sepulchre for the *Mac Neils*, the proprietors of it. *Corkir*, which dyes a crimson colour, and *Croftil*, which dyes a phylamort, grow upon the stones here. The soil is good for pasture and arable. They have also a medicinal well, which they esteem a catholicon.

A quarter of a mile south lies *Cary*, about a mile in compass, has good pasturage, and abounds with rabbits. It belongs to the family of *Macalister*.

*Jura*, the most rugged of the *Hebrides*, is reckoned to be about 34 miles long, and in general 10 broad, except along the sound of *Ilay*. It is composed chiefly of vast mountains, naked, and without the possibility of cultivation. Some of the southern and a little of the western sides only are improvable; it is therefore natural to suppose, that this island is ill peopled, especially

## WESTERN ISLES. 263

pecially as it has been a little thinned by the epidemic migrations.

This island seems to have changed masters more than once: at present, Mr. *Campbell*, by purchase from Mr. *Campbell* of *Shawfield*, Mr. *Mac-neile* of *Colonsay*, and the duke of *Argyle*, divide this mass of weather-beaten barrenness among them.

The produce of this island is about three or 400 head of cattle, sold annually at 3*l.* each, to graziers who come for them. About 100 horses are sold annually. Here are a few sheep with fleeces of most excellent fineness, and numbers of goats. In good seasons, sufficient bear and oats are raised as will maintain the inhabitants; but they sometimes want, I suppose, from the conversion of their grain into whiskey. The chief food of the common people is potatoes and fish, and shell-fish; and it is to be feared, that their competence of bread is very small.

Fern ashes bring in about 100*l.* a year; about 200 tons of kelp is burnt annually, and sold from 3*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* per tun. Sloes are the only fruits of the island. An acid for punch is made of the berries of the mountain-ash, and a kind of spirit is also distilled from them.

Necessity has instructed the inhabitants in the use of native dyes. Thus the juice of the tops of the heath, boiled, supplies them with a yellow; the roots of the white water-lily with a dark brown; those of the yellow water-iris, with a black, and the *galium verum*, *viz* of the islanders, with a very fine red, not inferior to that from madder.

The quadrupeds of *Fura* are about 100 stags, some wild cats, otters, stoats, rats, and seals. The feathered game, black-cocks, grouse, partridges, and snipes. The stags here must have been once more numerous, for the original name of the island was, the *Ile*

of



of Deer, so called by the Norwegians from the abundance of those noble animals.

The women are very prolific, and very often bear twins. The inhabitants live to a great age, and are liable to very few distempers. Men of ninety work, and there is now living (1772) a woman of eighty who can run down a sheep. The account given by Mr. Martin of Gillour Mac-Crain was confirmed to me. His age exceeded that of either Jenkins or Parry for he kept 180 *Christmases* in his own house, and died in the reign of Charles I.

This parish is supposed to be the largest in Great Britain, and the duty the most troublesome and dangerous: it consists of *Jura*, *Colonsay*, *Oransey*, *Skarba*, and several little isles divided by narrow and dangerous sounds, forming a length of not less than 60 miles, and supplied only by one minister and an assistant.

Superstitions are observed here to this time. The old women, when they undertake any cure, mutter certain rhythmical incantations; and, like the ancients, endeavour *deantare dolorem*. They preserve a stick of the wicken-tree, or mountain-ash, as a protection against elves.

After dinner, we walked down to the sound of *Ilay*, and visited the little island of *Frucklan*, near the shore, and a mile or two from the eastern entrance. On the top is a ruined tower of a square form, with walls nine feet thick. On the west side the rock on which it stands is cut through to a vast depth, forming a foss, over which had been a drawbridge. This fortress seemed as if intended to guard the mouth of the sound, and was also the prison where the *Mac-Donalds* kept their captives, and in old time was called the *Castle of Claigs*.

We rode along the shore of the sound, took a boat at the ferry, and went a mile more by water. On

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Vol. IV

*Jura* side we saw some *sheelins*, or summer huts for goatherds, who keep here a flock of 80, for the sake of the milk and cheeses. The last are made without salt, which they receive afterwards from the ashes of sea tang, and from the tang itself, in which the natives lay it.

We landed on a bank covered with *sheelins*, the habitations of some peasants, who attend the herds of milch cows. These formed a grotesque group: some were oblong, many conic, and so low that entrance was forbidden, without creeping through the little opening, which has no other door than a faggot of birch twigs placed there occasionally. They are constructed of branches of trees, covered with sods; the furniture a bed of heath, placed on a bank of sod; two blankets and a rug, some dairy vessels; and above, certain pendent shelves, made of basket-work, to hold the cheese, the produce of the summer. In one of the little conic huts, I spied a little infant asleep, under the protection of a faithful dog.

We crossed a large plain of ground on foot, seemingly improvable, but covered with deep heath, and perfectly in a state of nature. After a walk of four miles, we reached the *Paps*, and left the smaller to the south-east, preferring the ascent of the greatest, of which there are three. We began to ascend this mountain, a task of much labour and difficulty, being composed of vast stones, slightly covered with mosses near the base, but all above bare, and unconnected with each other.

We gained the top, and found our fatigues fully compensated by the grandeur of the prospect from this sublime spot. *Jura* itself afforded a stupendous scene of rock, varied with innumerable little lakes. From the west-side of the hill ran a narrow stripe of rock, terminating in the sea, called *the Slide of the Old Hag*. To the south appeared *Ilay*, extending like a map be-

neath us; and beyond that, the North of *Ireland*; to the west, *Gigha* and *Lara*, *Cantyre* and *Arran*, and the *Firth of Clyde*, bounded by *Airshire*; an amazing track of mountains to the north-east, as far as *Ben-lemond*; *Sharba* finished the northern view; and over the Western Ocean were scattered *Colonsay*, *Mull*, *Jona*, and its neighbouring group of isles; and still farther, the long extents of *Firey* and *Col* just apparent.

Even this vast heap of stones was not uninhabited: a hind passed along the sides full speed, and a brace of ptarmigans often favoured us with their appearance, even near the summit. The other paps are seen very distinctly, each inferior in height to this, but all of the same figure, perfectly mamillary.

*Lismore* is about nine miles long, and one and a half broad, and is extremely fertile in oats and bear. The parts that are not arable are filled with the tips of sharp rocks, peeping above the surface. The land is in general low, and the strata limestone.

Here is a church of modern but mean building, and in the church-yard are two or three old tombs, with clymores engraven on them. Here is also a remarkable tomb, consisting of nothing more than a thick log of oak. On a live rock is cut the radii of a dial but the index is lost.

This island had been the site of the bishop of *Argyle*; the sea was disjoined from that of *Dunkeld* about the year 1200, at the request of *John the Englishman* bishop of that diocese. There are no reliques of the cathedral, or of the bishop's house.

*Bernera*, formerly a sanctuary in popish times, has a noble wood of yew. In this isle, which is five miles in circumference, and lies about two leagues to the south of *Harries*, is a fresh-water lake, called *Lochbruist*, where many land and sea-fowl build.

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## WESTERN ISLES. 267

The isle of *Ilay* is of a square form, deeply indented on the south by the great bay of *Loch-anidaal*, divided from *Fura*, on the north-east, by the sound, which is near fourteen miles long, and about one broad. The tides are most violent and rapid; but the channel is clear, excepting at the south entrance, where there are some rocks on the *Fura* side.

The length of this island, from the point of *Ruval* to the *Mull* of *Kineth*, is twenty-eight miles, and is divided into the parishes of *Kildalton*, *Killarow*, *Kilchonan*, and *Kilmenie*. The face of the island is hilly, but not high, and the land in many parts is excellent, but much of it is covered with heath, and absolutely in a state of nature.

It produces corn of different kinds, such as bear and oats; but a ruinous distillation prevails here, to so great a degree, that it is supposed more of the bear is drank in the form of whisky, than eaten in the shape of bannocks. Wheat has been raised with good success, in an enclosure belonging to the proprietor; but in an open country, where most of the cattle are suffered to go at large, it is impossible to cultivate that grain, and the tenants are unable to enclose. Much flax is raised here, and 2000 *l.* worth sold out of the island in yarn, which might better be manufactured on the spot, to give employment to the poor natives.

The natives are a set of people worn down with poverty; their habitations are scenes of misery, made of coarse stone, without chimnies, and without doors, excepting the faggot opposed to the wind at one or other of the apertures, permitting the smoke to escape thro' the other, in order to prevent the pains of suffocation. The furniture perfectly corresponds. A pot-hook hangs from the middle of the roof, with a pot pendent over a grateless fire, filled with fare that may rather be called a permission to exist, than a support of vigorous life:

life: the inmates, as may be expected, are lean, withered, dusky, and smoke-dried.

Though the land is exceeding good, yet they import annually a 1000 *l.* worth of meal; and there have been instances in which they have been threatened with a famine. Ale is frequently made in this island of the young tops of heath, mixing two thirds of that plant with one of malt, sometimes adding hops. The country is blest with fine manures; for besides seawrack, coral, shell-sand, rock and pit marle, it possesses a track of thirty-six square miles of limestone. What a pity it is, that these inexhaustible sources of wealth and plenty to this island should be wholly neglected!

Numbers of cattle are bred here, and about 1700 are annually exported at the price of 2 *l.* 10 *s.* each. The island is often overstocked, and numbers die in *March* for want of fodder. None but milch cows are housed; for cattle of all other kinds, except the saddle horses, run out during winter.

The air is less healthy than that of *Jura*. The epidemical distempers are dropsies and cancers, undoubtedly the natural effects of bad food. Here are weasels, otters, and hares; eagles, falcons, and black and red game; plaice, dabs, dragonet, and other fish; and vipers swarm in the heath.

The power of fascination is as strongly believed here, as it was by the shepherds of *Italy* in times of old; but here the power of the *evil eye* affects more the milch cows than lambs. If any good housewife perceives the effects of the malicious on any of her kine, she takes as much milk as she can drain from the enchanted herd, for the witch commonly leaves very little. She then boils it with certain herbs, and adds to them flints and untempered steel: she then secures the door, and invokes the three sacred persons. This puts the witch into such an agony, that she comes mil-

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ling-willing to the house, begs to be admitted, to obtain relief by touching the powerful pot. The good woman then makes the terms, the witch restores the milk to the cattle, and in return is freed from her pains. But sometimes, to save the trouble of those charms, (for it may happen that the disorder may arise from another cause than an *evil eye*) the trial is made by immersing in milk a certain herb, and, if the cows are supernaturally affected, it instantly distils blood.

We visited the mines, carried on under the direction of Mr. *Frebairn*, since the year 1763. The one is of lead, much mixed with copper, which occasions expence and trouble in the separation. The veins rise to the surface, have been worked at intervals for ages, and probably in the time of the *Norwegians*, a nation of miners. The old adventurers worked by trenching, which is apparent every where. The trenches are not above six feet deep, and the veins which opened into them, not above five or six inches thick, yet, by means of some instrument, unknown to us at present, they scooped or picked out the ore with good success, following it in that narrow space to the length of four feet.

The veins are of various thickness, the strings numerous, conducting to large bodies, but quickly exhausted. The lead ore is good; the copper yields 33 pounds *per* hundred, and 40 ounces of silver from a tun of the metal. The lead ore is melted in an air furnace near *Freeport*, and as much sold in the pig as, since the first undertaking by this gentleman, as hath brought in 6 or 7000 *l*.

Not far from these mines are vast strata of that species of iron called *bog-ore*, of the concreted kind, and beneath that vast quantities of vitriolic mundic. On the top of a hill, at some little distance, are some rocks, with great veins of emery running in the midst, in an horizontal direction, and from one to three feet thick.

A small quantity of quicksilver hath been found in the moors, which ought to encourage a further search.

In some parts of this island, particularly at *Doun-vallan*, are scattered small holes, formed in the ground, large enough to hold a man in a sitting posture. The top is covered with a broad stone, and that with earth. Into these unhappy fugitives took shelter after a defeat, and drawing together sods, found a temporary concealment from enemies, who, in early times, knew not the giving or receiving of quarter. The incursions of barbarians are always short, so that the fugitives could easily subsist in their earths till the danger was over. Men were then almost in a state of nature: How strong was their resemblance to beasts of prey! The whole scenery of this place was unspeakably savage, and the inhabitants of *Doun-vallan*, and its neighbourhood, suitably adapted thereto. Falcons screamed incessantly over our heads, and we disturbed the eagles perched on the precipice.

The island of *Oransay* is three miles long, the south part low and sandy, and the rest high and rocky. It is divided from *Golonsay* by a narrow sound, dry at low water. This island is a single farm, yielding bear, flax, and much potatoes, which are left in their beds the whole winter, covered with sea-wrack to protect them from the frost. Sixty milch cows are kept here, and in the year 1774, eighty head of cattle were sold from the island at 3*l.* each. Some butter and cheese are also exported.

This island is rented by Mr. *Mac Neill*, brother to the proprietor of both islands. The rent is not more than 40*l.* a year, yet the farm employs a number of servants.

Here are the ruins of an ancient monastery, founded, as some say, by *Columba*, but more probably by one of the *Lords of Isles*, who fixed here a priory of regular canons of *Augustine*, dependent on the abbey of *Holy*

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road in *Edinburgh*. The church is 59 feet by 18, and contains the tombs of numbers of the ancient islanders, two of warriors recumbent, seven feet long: a flattery perhaps of the sculptor, to give future ages exalted notions of their prowess. Besides these, are scattered over the floor smaller figures of heroes, priests, and females, the last seemingly of some order; and near them is a figure cut in stone, of full size, apparently an abbeys.

The seals are here numerous, and a few are caught in nets placed between these rocks. The great species is taken on *Du-birtach*, a great rock about a mile round, ten leagues to the west, reported to be the nearest of any to *America*.

We crossed the sound at low water, and entered the island of *Colmsay*, which is 12 miles long, three broad, and full of rocky hills, running transversely, with variety of pretty meandering vales full of grass, and most excellent for pasturage, even the hills having plenty of herbage mixed with the rock. The vallies want inclosures and woods, the common defect of all the *Hebrides*. They yield bear and potatoes: much of the first is used in distillation, to the very starving of the islanders, who are obliged to import meal for their subsistence. About 220 head of cattle are annually exported at 3*l.* each. In 1736, the price was only 1*l.* 5*s.*; but the rise commenced two years after the rebellion. Yet even this advance does not enrich the people of this pretty island, for their whole profit is exhausted in the purchase of bread, which their own industry ought to supply.

The soil produces oats and bear, and 40 or 50 tuns of kelp are annually made in both islands; but the poverty of the inhabitants prevents them from using the very means Providence has given them of raising a comfortable subsistence. They have a good soil, plenty of limestone, and sufficient quantity of peat. A sea

abounding with fish; but their distressed situation disables them from cultivating the one, and taking the other. These two islands contain 8400 acres, of which about 2600 are arable. How inadequate then is the produce of cattle, and how much more so is that of corn! Neither frogs, toads, nor vipers are found here, nor any kind of serpent, except the harmless blind worms.

North-east from *Isle* lies the *Isle of Mull*, 24 miles in length, and near as much in breadth. It lies in the shire of *Argyle*. The air is temperate, cold, and moist, but qualified by fresh breezes from the mountains. This island in general affords good pasturage for cattle of all sorts. They have a great many deer, and abound with wild-fowl, and very fine hawks. Their horses are little, but very sprightly; their black cattle excellent meat. Their corn is barley and oats. It formerly abounded with wood, but most of it is now cut. The heaths, besides pasturage for cattle, afford good fuel for the natives. The bay of *Duart*, on the west-side, is a good anchoring-place. Upon this stands the castle of *Duart*, the seat of the head of the ancient family of *Maclean*, who still retain the property of one half of this island: the other moiety is the property of the duke of *Argyle*. There are two other castles, and several anchoring places about this island. There are some fresh-water lakes in it, which afford trout, eels, &c. Several smaller isles lie about it, and in its bays; some of which are very fruitful, and some impregnable. The bay called *Lochleffan* abounds with herrings and shell-fish. The inhabitants of this isle profess Protestantism, and have two parish-churches, besides several ruinous places, formerly used for devotion. In the sound or bay of *Mull*, betwixt this isle and *Lochaber*, a great ship, called the *Florida*, belonging to the *Spanish Armada*, was lost in the year 1588. Persons in several places have often dived for

her, and found good account in the guns, and other valuable effects they have got out of her.

It seems here indispensibly necessary to mention the *Isle of Staffa*, which is taken notice of by Mr. *Buchanan*, but in the slightest manner; and among the thousands who have navigated these seas, none have paid the least attention to its grand and striking characteristic, till visited by Mr. *Banks*, in the month of *August*, 1773, and to whom the world is indebted for a particular description of its wonders, of which the following is an extract.

In the sound of *Mull*, says Mr. *Banks*, we came to anchor on the *Morven* side, opposite to a gentleman's house called *Drummen*. The owner of it, Mr. *Maclean*, having learned who we were, very civilly invited us on shore. We accepted his invitation, and arrived at his house, where we met an *English* gentleman, Mr. *Leach*, who no sooner saw us, than he told us, that about nine leagues from us was an island, where, he believed, no one, even in the islands, had been, on which were pillars like those of the *Giant's Causeway*. This was a great object to me, who had wished to have seen the *Causeway* itself, would time have allowed. I therefore resolved to proceed directly; and, accordingly, having put up two days provisions, and my little tent, we put off in the boat about one o'clock for our intended voyage, having ordered the ship to wait for us in *Tobir-mere*, a fine harbour on the *Mull* side.

At nine o'clock, after a tedious passage, having had not a breath of wind, we arrived, under the direction of Mr. *Maclean's* son and Mr. *Leach*. It was too dark to see any thing, so we carried our tent and baggage near the only house upon the island, and began to cook our suppers, in order to be prepared for the earliest dawn, to enjoy that, which, from the conversation of the gentlemen, we had now been raised to the highest expectations of.

The impatience which every one felt to see the wonders we had heard so largely described, prevented our morning's rest. Every one was up and in motion before the break of day, and, with the first light, arrived at the south-west part of the island, the seat of the most remarkable pillars; where we no sooner arrived than we were struck with a scene of magnificence which exceeded our expectations, though formed, as we thought, upon the most sanguine expectations. The whole of that end of the island is supported by ranges of natural pillars, mostly above fifty feet high, standing in natural colonnades, according as the bays or points of land formed themselves. Upon a firm basis of solid unformed rock, above these, the stratum which reaches to the soil or surface of the island, varied in thickness, as the island itself formed into hills or vallies; each hill, which hung over the columns below, forming an ample pediment. Some of these were above 60 feet in thickness, from the base to the point, formed by the sloping of the hill on each side, almost into the shape of those used in architecture.

Compared to this, what are the cathedrals or palaces built by men! mere models or playthings, imitations as diminutive as his works will always be when compared to those of nature. Where is now the boast of the architect! Regularity, the only part in which he fancied himself to exceed his mistress, Nature, is here found in her possession, and here it has been for ages undescribed.

With our minds full of such reflection, we proceeded along the shore, treading upon another *Giant's Causeway*, every stone being regularly formed into a certain number of sides and angles, till, in a short time, we arrived at the mouth of a cave, the most magnificent, I suppose, that has ever been described by travellers.

The mind can hardly form an idea more magnificent than such a space, supported on each side by  
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ranges of columns, and roofed by the bottom of those which have been broken off in order to form it: between the angles of which a yellow stalagmitic matter has issued, which serves to define the angles precisely, and, at the same time vary the colour with a great deal of elegance; and, to render it still more agreeable, the whole is lighted from without: so that the farthest extremity is very plainly seen from without, and the air within being agitated by the flux and reflux of the tide, is perfectly dry and wholesome, free entirely from the damp vapours with which natural caverns in general abound.

We asked the name of it: "the Cave of *Fiubn*," said our guide. "What is *Fiubn*?" said we. "*Fiubn Mac Coul*, (replied he) whom the translator of *Osian's* works has called *Fingal*." How fortunate, that in this cave we should meet with the remembrance of that chief, whose existence, as well as that of the whole *epic* poem, is almost doubted in *England* \*.

\* "The *Earse* language is the rude speech of a barbarous people, who had few thoughts to express, and were content, as they conceived grossly, to be grossly understood. After what has been lately talked of *Highland* bards, and *Highland* genius, many will startle when they are told, that the *Earse* never was a written language; that there is not in the world an *Earse* manuscript of an hundred years old; and that the sounds of the *Highlanders* were never expressed by letters, till some little books of piety were translated, and a metrical version of the *Psalms* was made by the Synod of *Argyle*. Whoever, therefore, now writes in this language, spells according to his own perception of the sound, and his own idea of the power of the letters. The *Welsh* and the *Irish* are cultivated tongues. The *Welsh*, two hundred years ago, insulted their *English* neighbours for the instability of their orthography; while the *Earse* merely floated in the breath of the people, and could therefore receive little improvement.

"The *Earse* has many dialects, and the words used in some islands are not always known on others. In literate nations, though the pronunciation, and sometimes the words of common speech may differ, now in *England*, compared with the south of *Scotland*, yet there is a written diction, which pervades all dialects, and is understood in every province. But where the whole language is colloquial, he that has only one part, never gets the rest, as he cannot get it but by change of sentence.

The little island of *Staffa* lies on the west coast of *Mull*, about three leagues north-east from *Jona*. Its greatest length is about an *English* mile, and its breadth about half a one. On the west side of the island is a small bay, where boats generally land; a little to the southward of which the first appearance of pillars are to be observed. They are small, and, instead of being placed upright, lie down on their sides, each forming a segment of a circle. From thence you pass a small cave, above which, the pillars, now grown a little larger, are inclining in all directions: In one place in particular, a small mass of them very much resemble the ribs of a ship. From hence, having passed the cave, which, if it is not low water, you must

"In an unwritten speech, nothing that is not very short is transmitted from one generation to another. Few have opportunities of hearing a long composition often enough to learn it, or have inclination to repeat it so often as is necessary to retain it; and what is once forgotten is lost for ever. I believe there cannot be recovered, in the whole *Earle* language, five hundred lines, of which there is any evidence to prove them a hundred years old. Yet I hear that the father of *Offian* boasts of two chests more of ancient poetry, which he suppresses, because they are too good for the *English*."

"I suppose my opinion of the poems of *Offian* is already discovered. I believe they never existed in any other form than that which we have seen. The editor, or author, never could shew the original, nor can it be shewn by any other. To revenge reasonable incredulity, by refusing evidence, is a degree of insolence with which the world is not yet acquainted, and stubborn audacity is the last refuge of guilt. It would be easy to shew it if he had it; but whence could it be had? It is too long to be remembered, and the language formerly had nothing written. He has doubtless invented names that circulate in popular stories, and may have translated some wandering ballads, if any can be found; and the names, and some of the images being recollected, make an inaccurate auditor imagine, by the help of *Caledonian* bigotry, that he has formerly heard the whole."

We have here given the opinion of *Dr. Johnson*, (in his *Journey to the Western Isles of Scotland*, published in 1775) of the originality of the poems of *Offian*, which has been attacked and defended by different pens. It is, however, but justice to observe, that *Dr. Blair's* treatise on these poems is perhaps the best defence hitherto made of their originality, and which, in the opinion of many, proves them, beyond a doubt, to be genuine.

do in a boat, you come to the first range of pillars, which are still not above half as large as those a little beyond. Over against this place is a little island, called in *Erse*, *Boo-sha-la*, separated from the main by a channel not many fathoms wide. This whole island is composed of pillars without any stratum above them. They are still small, but by much the neatest formed of any about the island.

The main island, opposite to *Boo-sha-la*, and farther towards the north-east, is supported by ranges of pillars pretty neat, and though not tall, (as they are not uncovered to the base) of large diameters. At their feet is an irregular pavement, made by the upper sides of such as have been broken off, which extend as far under water as the eye can reach. Here the forms of the pillars are apparent: there are of these, four, five, six, and seven sides; but the numbers of five and six are by much the most prevalent. The largest I met was of seven, and was four feet five inches in diameter.

Proceeding further to the north-west, you meet with the highest ranges of pillars, the magnificent appearance of which is past all description. Here they are bare to their very basis, and the stratum below them is also visible.

The sky growing black towards the afternoon, and the wind freshening into a gale, attended with rain, we quitted the island. The weather discouraged us from a chase of seals, the pleasure of which we proposed to enjoy on the rock *Heiskyr*, a little to the west, where they swarm.

The view of *Jona*, as we approached it, was very picturesque: the east side, or that which bounds the sound, exhibited a beautiful variety. An extent of plain, a little elevated above the water, and almost covered with the ruins of the sacred buildings, and with the remains of the old town, is still inhabited. Beyond these the island rises into little rocky hills, with  
narrow



narrow verdant hollows between, (for they merit not the name of vallies) and numerous enough for every recluse to take his solitary walk, undisturbed by society.

This island belongs to the parish of *Ross* in *Mull*, and by some writers is called *St. Columbus*. It is three miles long, and one broad; the east-side is mostly flat, the middle rises into small hills; the west-side is very rude and rocky, and the whole is a singular mixture of rock and fertility.

The soil is a compound of sand and comminuted sea-shells, mixed with black loam, and is very favourable to the growth of bear, natural clover, crowsfoot, and daisies. Oats do not succeed here; but flax and potatoes come on very well.

The tenants here *run-rig*, and have the pasturage in common. It supports about 108 head of cattle, and about 500 sheep. There is no heath in this island; cattle unused to that plant give bloody milk on their eating it, which is the case of the cattle of *Jona* transported to *Mull*, where that vegetable abounds; but the cure is soon effected by giving them plenty of water.

The number of inhabitants is about 150, and are the most stupid and most lazy of all the islanders; yet most of them boast of their descent from the companions of *St. Columba*.

A few of the more common birds frequent this island; wild geese breed here, and the young are often reared and tamed by the natives. The beautiful sea-bugloss makes the shore gay with its glaucous leaves and purple flowers. The eryngo, or sea-holly, is frequent, and the fatal belladonna is found here.

The town consists of about fifty houses, mostly very mean, thatched with straw of bear, pulled up by the roots, and bound tight on the roof with ropes made of heath. Some of the houses that lie a little beyond the rest seemed to have been better constructed than the

others, and to have been the mansions of the inhabitants when the place was in a flourishing state; but at present (1774) they are in a very ruinous condition.

We visited every place in the order they lay from the village. The first was the ruins of the nunnery, filled with cannoneesses of *St. Augustine*, and consecrated to *St. Oran*. They were permitted to live in community for a considerable time after the Reformation, and wore a white gown, and above it a rotchet of fine linen.

The church was 58 feet by 20: the roof of the east-end is intire, and is a pretty vault made of very thin stones, bound together by four ribs meeting in the center. The floor is covered some feet thick with cow-dung, this place being at present the common shelter for the cattle; and the islanders are too lazy to remove this fine manure, the collection of a century, to enrich their grounds.

With much difficulty, by virtue of fair words and a bribe, we prevailed on one of these idle fellows to remove a great quantity of this dunghil, and by that means once more expose to light the tomb of the last prioress. Her figure is cut on the face of the stone, an angel on each side supports her head, and above them is a little plate and a comb. The prioress employs only one half of the surface, the other is filled with the form of the Virgin *Mary*, with a crown and mitre on her head; the child in her arms, and to denote her queen of heaven, a sun and moon appear above.

We next arrived at *Reilig-ourain*, or the burying-place of *Oran*. It is a vast enclosure, a great place of interment for the number of monarchs who were deposited here, and for the potentates of every isle, and their lineage; for all were ambitious of lying in this holy spot. The place is in a manner filled with grave-stones; but so overgrown with weeds, especially the common

common butter-bur, that very few are at present to be seen.

It may not be amiss here to observe, that *Jona* derives its name from a *Hebrew* word, signifying a dove, in allusion to the name of the great Saint, *Columba*, the founder of its fame. This holy man, instigated by his zeal, left his native country, *Ireland*, in the year 565, with the pious design of preaching the gospel to the *Picts*.

Six miles west from this island lies *Tyre-ty*, eight miles long and three broad. It is reckoned to be the most plentiful of all the islands in the necessities of human life, abounding with corn, cattle, fish, and and fowl. Here is a fresh-water lake, with an island, and an old castle in it, and an harbour for long-boats, which are used in that country. It formerly belonged to the family of *Maclean*, but now belongs to the duke of *Argyle*. There is one church in this island, called *Sorabi*, whereof the dean of the isles was minister. The people are protestants; they are not very healthy, as the country lies low.

Near this are two islands, called *Kerniberg*, so strong by nature, that a little art would make them impregnable.

About half a league to the north-east lies the island of *Col*, which is computed to be 13 miles in length and three in breadth. Both the ends are the property of the duke of *Argyle*, but the middle belongs to *Maclean*, who is called *Col*, as the only laird. The inhabitants are Protestants: they have a notion here that *Tyre-ty* breeds more women than men, and *Col* more men than women; so that they may people each other without the assistance of their neighbours.

*Col* is not properly rocky; it is rather one continued rock, of a surface much diversified with protuberances, and covered with a thin layer of earth, which is often broken, and discovers the stones. Such a

soil

soil is not for plants that strike deep roots; and perhaps in the whole island (says Dr. *Johnson*) nothing has ever yet grown to the height of a table. The uncultivated parts are cloathed with heath, among which industry has interspersed spots of grass and corn. Young *Col*, who has a very laudable desire of improving his patrimony, has introduced the culture of turnips, of which he has now (1775) a field, where the whole work was performed by his own hand. His intentions is to provide food for his cattle in the winter. This innovation was considered, by *Macfweyn*, as the idle project of a young head heated with *English* fancies; but he has now found that the turnips will really grow, and that the hungry sheep and cows will really eat them.

By such acquisitions as these, the *Hebrides* may, in time, rise above their present distress. Wherever heath will grow, there is reason to believe something better may draw nourishment; and, by trying the production of other places, plants will be found suitable to every soil.

*Col* has many lochs, some of which have trout and eels, and others have never yet been stocked: another proof of the negligence of the islanders, who might take fish in the inland waters when they cannot go to sea.

Their quadrupeds are horses, cows, sheep, and goats; but they have neither deer, hares, nor rabbits. They have no vermin except rats, which have been lately brought thither by sea, as to other places; and they are free from serpents, frogs, and toads.

On our arrival in the harbour of *Cannay*, on looking around us, each shore appeared pleasing to humanity, being verdant, and covered with hundreds of cattle. Both sides gave a full idea of plenty, for the verdure was mixed with very little rock and scarcely any heath; but a short conversation with the natives soon dispelled this agree-

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agreeable error: they were at this time in such want, that numbers had neither bread nor meal for their poor babes. Fish and milk were now their whole subsistence, but the first was a precarious relief; for, besides the uncertainty of success, to add to their distress, their stock of fish-hooks were almost exhausted, and to ours, that it was not in our power to supply them. The ribbands, and other trifles I had brought, would have been insults to people in distress. I lamented that my money had been laid out in so useless a manner; for a few dozens of fish-hooks, or a few pecks of meal, would have made them happy.

The crops had failed there the last year, (1773) but the little corn sown at present had a promising aspect, and the potatoes the best I had seen; but these were not fit for use. The isles, I fear, annually experience a temporary famine, perhaps from providence, perhaps from eagerness to increase their stock of cattle, which they can easily dispose of to satisfy the demands of their landlords, or the oppressions of an agent.

The cattle are of a middle size, black, long-legged, and have their staring manes from the neck along the back, and up part of the tail. They look well, for in several parts of the island, they have good warm recesses to retreat to in winter. About sixty head of cattle are annually exported. Each couple of milch cows yields, at an average, seven stones of butter and cheese: two thirds of the first, and one of the last. The cheese sold at 3s. 6d. a stone, and the butter at 8s.

Here are very few sheep, but horses in abundance. The chief use of them in this little district, is to form an annual cavalcade at *Michaelmas*. Every man in the island mounts his horse, unfurnished with saddle, and takes behind him either some young girl, or his neighbour's wife, and then rides backwards and forwards from the village to a certain cross, without being able

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to give any reason for the origin of this custom. After the procession is over, they alight at some public house, where, strange to say, the females treat the companions of their ride. When they retire to their houses an entertainment is prepared with primæval simplicity, the chief part of which consists of a great oat-cake, called *Struan-Micheil*, or *St. Michael's cake*, composed of two pecks of meal, and formed like the quadrant of a circle. It is daubed over with milk and eggs, and then placed to harden before the fire.

Matrimony is held in such esteem here, that an old maid or an old bachelor is scarcely known, such firm belief have they in the doctrine of the ape-leading disgrace in the world below; and, in order to avoid that danger, the young men marry at twenty, and the ladies at seventeen. The fair sex are used here with more tenderness than common, being employed only in domestic affairs, and never forced into the labours of the field. Here are plenty of poultry and eggs.

Great quantities of cod and ling might be here taken, there being a fine sand-bank between this island and the rock of *Heisker*, and another between *Skie* and *Barra*; but the poverty of the inhabitants prevents their attempting a fishery. While I was at *Cambletown*, I enquired about the apparatus necessary for this business, and found that it required a vessel of 20 tons, which would cost 200*l.*; that 600 fathom of long line, 500 hooks, and two *stuy* lines, 80 fathom long, which are placed at each end of the long lines, with buoys at top to mark the place when sunk, would, altogether, cost 5*l.* 5*s.* and the vessel must be provided with four sits: so that the whole charge of such adventure is very considerable, and past the ability of these poor people.

This island is about three miles long, and was the property of the bishop of the isles, but, at present, is in the possession of Mr. *Macdonal*, of *Clan-Ronald*.

His

His father, a resident agent, has the letting of the lands, to the impoverishing and starving of the wretched inhabitants, as he exacts more than they can easily pay. It is said, that the factor has, in a manner, banished sheep, because there is no good market for them: so that he does his best to deprive the inhabitants of clothing as well as food. At present they supply themselves with wool from *Rum*, at the rate of 8 *d.* the pound.

All the clothing is manufactured at home; for the women not only spin the wool, but weave the cloth. The men make their own shoes, tan the leather with the bark of willow, or the roots of the tormentil, and in defect of wax-thread use split thongs. About 20 tons of kelp are made on the shores every third year.

The islands of *Rum*, *Muck*, and *Egg*, form one parish. *Cannay* is inhabited by 220 people, all of whom, except four families, are *Roman Catholics*; but in the whole parish there is neither church, manse, nor school. There is indeed in this island a catechist, who has 9 *l.* a year from the royal bounty. The minister and the popish priest reside in *Egg*; but, by reason of the turbulent seas that divide these isles, are very seldom able to attend their flocks. I admire the moderation of their congregations, who attend the preaching of either indifferently as they happen to arrive. As the *Scotch* are economists in religion, I would recommend to them the practice of one of the little *Swiss* mixed cantons, who, through mere frugality, kept but one divine, a moderate, honest fellow, who, steering clear of controversial points, held forth to the *Calvinist* flock on one part of the day, and to his *Catholic* on the other. He lived long among them much respected, and died lamented.

After having left *Cannay*, and passed with a favourable gale through a rolling sea, we anchored in the isle of *Rum*, in an open bay, about two miles deep,  
bounded

## WESTERN ISLES. 285

bounded by high, black, and barren mountains. At the bottom of this bay is the little village of *Kinloch*, consisting of about a dozen houses, built in a singular manner, with walls very thick and low, with the roofs or thatch reaching a little beyond the inner edge, so that they serve as benches for the inhabitants, whom we found sitting on them in great numbers, expecting our landing with that avidity for news common to the whole country.

We entered that house which had the best aspect, but found it little superior in goodness to those of *Ilay*. This indeed had a chimney and windows, which distinguished it from the others, and denoted the superiority of the owner. The rest knew neither windows nor chimnies; for a little hole on one side gave an exit to the smoke. The fire is made on the floor beneath, and above hangs a rope, with a pot-hook at the end, to hold the vessel that contains their hard fare, a little fish, milk, or potatoes. However, beneath the roof I entered, I found an address and politeness from the owner and his wife that were astonishing: such pretty apologies for the badness of the treat, the curds and milk that were offered, which were tendered to us with as much readiness and good-will, as by any of *Homer's* dames, celebrated by him in his *Odyssey* for their hospitality!

*Rum* is the property of Mr. *Macleane* of *Cal*, a landlord mentioned by the natives with much affection. It is about 12 miles long, and 6 broad. The island is one great mountain, divided into several points, the highest of which is called *Aisgobhall*. About this bay, on the east-side, the land slopes towards the water; but on the south-west it forms precipices of a stupendous height. The surface of the island is in a manner covered with heath, and in a state of nature. There is very little arable land, excepting about the nine little hamlets that the natives have grouped in different

different places, near which the corn is sown in diminutive patches, for the tenants here *run-rig* as in *Canary*. The greatest farmer holds 5*l.* 12*s.* a year, and pays his rent in money. The whole rent of the island is about 110*l.*

The little corn and potatoes they raise is very good; but so small is the quantity of bear and oats, that there is not a fourth part produced necessary to supply their annual wants; all the subsistence the poor people have besides is curds, milk, and fish. They are a well-made race, but carry famine in their aspect; and are often a whole summer without a grain in the island, which they regret not on their own account, but for the sake of their poor babes. In the present management of the island, there is no prospect of any improvement.

A number of black cattle is sold, at 30 or 40*s.* per head, to graziers who come annually from *Skie*, and other places. The mutton here is small, but the most delicate in our dominions, if the goodness of our appetites did not pervert our judgments. The purchase of a fat sheep was 4*s.* 6*d.* of these the natives kill a few, and also of cows, to salt for winter provisions. No hay is made in this island, nor any sort of provender for winter provision; so that the domestic animals support themselves, as well as they can, on spots of grass preserved for that purpose. A very few poultry are reared here, on account of the scarcity of grain.

No wild quadrupeds are found on this island, excepting stags. These animals once abounded here, but they are now reduced to eighty by the eagles, who not only kill the fawns, but the old deer also, seizing them between the horns, and terrifying them till they fall down some precipice, and become their prey.

Here are only the ruins of a church in this island, so that the minister is obliged to preach, the few times

he visits his congregation, in the open air. The attention of our popish ancestors in this article delivers down great reproach on the negligence of their informed descendants: the one leaving not even the most distant and savage part of our dominions without a place of worship; the other suffering the natives to want both instructor and temple.

*Muck* lies south-west of *Rum*, is about four miles in circumference, fruitful in corn and grass, surrounded with rocks, and noted for good hawks.

*Egg* lies not far from *Coll*, is three miles in length, and a mile and a half in breadth, and the whole pretty good for pasturage and cultivation. On the south end of it is a mountain, and on the top of that a high rock, of about 150 paces in circumference, with a fresh-water pool in the middle of it: there is only one pass up to it; so that it is a natural fort. On the south-west side of the isle is a cave, capable of containing some hundreds of people; and there are several medicinal wells in this island.

The island of *Skie* is the largest of the *Hebrides*, being more sixty measured miles long, but of an unequal breadth, by reason of the numbers of lochs that penetrate far on both sides. The modern name of this island is of *Norwegian* origin, derived from *skie*, a mist; and from the clouds, which almost constantly hang from the tops of its hills, was stiled *Ealand Skinnach*, or the Cloudy Island. No epithet could better suit the place; for, except in the summer season, there is scarcely a week of fair weather: the summers themselves are generally wet, and seldom warm. The westerly wind blows here more regularly than any other, and arriving charged with the vapours from the vast *Atlantic*, never fails to dash the clouds it wafts the lofty summits of the hills of *Cuchullin*, and their contents deluge the island in a manner unknown in other places. What is properly called the rainy season,

son, commences in *August*. The rains begin with moderate winds, which grow stronger and stronger till the autumnal equinox, when they rage with incredible fury.

The husbandman then sighs over the ruins of his vernal labours, sees his crop feel the injuries of climate, some laid prostrate, and the more ripe corn shed by the violence of the elements. The poor foresee famine and consequential disease, and agonize over those distresses which inability deprive them of the power of preventing. The nearer calls of family and children naturally first excite their attention: to maintain and educate are all their hopes; for that of accumulating wealth is beyond their expectation. Thus the poor are left to the care of Providence: they prowl like other animals along the shore to pick up limpets and other shell-fish, the casual repasts of hundreds, during part of the year, in these unhappy islands. Hundreds thus annually drag through the season a wretched life; and numbers unknown, in all parts of the western islands, fall beneath the pressure, some of hunger, more of the putrid fever, the epidemic of the coasts, originating from unwholesome food, the dire effects of necessity. Moral and innocent victims! who exult in the change, first finding that place, "where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest."

The farmer labours to remedy his distress to the best of his power, but the wetness of the land, late in the spring, prevents him from putting into the ground the early seed of future crops, bear and small oats, of which the last are fittest for the climate, since they bear the fury of the winds better than other grain, and require less manure, of which there is a deficiency in this island. Poverty prevents him from making experiments in rural oeconomy: the ill success of a few made by the more opulent, determines him to follow

the old track, as attended with more certainty, unwilling, like the dog in the fable, to grasp at the shadow, and lose the substance, even poor as it is.

The produce of the crops very rarely are in any degree proportioned to the wants of the inhabitants. Golden seasons have happened, when they have had superfluity; but the years of famine are as ten to one. The helps of the common years are potatoes.

The poorer tenants, who have no winter parks, are under the necessity of keeping the cattle under the same roof with themselves during the nights, and are often obliged to keep them alive with the meal designed for their families. The cows are often forced, through want of other food, to have recourse to the shores, and feed on the sea-plants at low water. These creatures, merely by instinct, at ebb of tide, hasten from the moors, down to the sea-shore, though they are not within sight of it.

Cattle is at present the only trade of the island, of which about four thousand are annually sold, from 2*l.* to 3*l.* a head. About 250 horses are also purchased from hence every year. Here are no sheep but what are kept for home consumption, or for the wool for the cloathing of the inhabitants. Hogs are not yet introduced here, they having no proper food for them. They make about 300 tons of kelp annually; but it is thought not to answer, as it robs the land of so much manure.

At *Struan*, in this island, is a beautiful *Danish* fort on the top of a rock, formed with excellent masonry, the figure of which, as usual, is circular. The diameter, from outside to outside, is sixty feet, and that of the inside 42. Within are the vestiges of five apartments, one in the center, and four round that. The walls are 18 feet high, and the entrance six, covered with great stones.

VOL. IV.

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About



About a furlong north-west of this, is another large rock, precipitous on all sides but one. On that is the ruin of a very thick wall, and the traces of a dyke quite round, even on the inaccessible parts; between which and the wall is a large area. This seems to have been built without regularity, yet probably belonged to the same nation. Each seems designed to cover an assemblage of people, who lived beneath their protection in an hostile country; for under both are remains of numbers of small buildings with regular entrances. The last inclosure is supposed to have been designed for the security of the cattle, of which these freebooters had robbed the natives.

*Dun-vegan* is the seat of Mr *Macleod*, a gentleman descended from one of the *Norwegian* viceroys, governors of the isles while they bore a foreign yoke; but the antiquity of his descent is an accident that would convey little honour to him, had he not a much more substantial claim: for to all the mildness of human nature, usually concomitant with his early age, is added the sense and firmness of a more advanced life. He feels for the distresses of his people, and, insensible of his own, with uncommon disinterestedness, has relieved his tenants from their oppressive rents: he has received, instead of golden traths, the treasures of warm affections and unfeigned prayers. He will soon experience the good effects of his generosity: gratitude, the result of that sensibility, still existing among those accustomed to a feudal government, will shew itself in more than empty words; and, in time, they will not fail to exert every nerve to give his virtue the reward it merits.

The castle of *Dun-vegan* is situated on a high rock over a loch of the same name, a branch of loch *Fa-la-sh*. Part is modernized, but the greater portion is ancient. The oldest is a square tower, which, with a wall round the edge of the rock, was the original strength

strength of the place. Adjacent is a village and the post-office, for, from hence, a packet-boat, supported by subscription, sails every fortnight for the *Long Island*.

*Sota-Britil* lies a quarter of a mile south of *Skie*, is five miles in circumference, full of bogs, and fitter for pasturage than cultivation. On the west-side it is covered with wood. The coasts of this island abound with cod and ling.

On the north-side of *Skie* lies *Scalpa*, five miles in circumference. It has wood in several parts of it, and is fruitful in corn and grass.

A little farther north lies *Raarfay*, nine miles long, and three broad. It has much wood, and is fitter for pasture than cultivation. On the east-side of it is a spring, which runs down from a rock, and petrifies into a fine white lime, of which it yields great quantities. Here is also a quarry of good stone. On the west-side is abundance of caves, where people lodge, who go thither in summer upon the account of fishing or grazing of cattle. There are several forts in this island, some of which are naturally very strong. The proprietor is a cadet of the family of *Macleod*, and is much respected by the inhabitants.

A quarter of a mile farther north, lies *Rona*, three miles in length. It is fruitful in pasturage; and the rocks about it are of hecitic stone.

*Alsvig* lies on the north-west corner of *Skie*, is two miles in circumference, fruitful in corn and grass, and noted for the vast shoals of herrings about it, which sometimes entangle the fishing-boats.

*Fladda*, two leagues distant, is but two miles in compass, but much noted for its fishing of all sorts, and for large whales, which pursue the fish on the coast of it. The sea-fowl, called coulternebs, are very numerous here; and a great flock of plovers come thither from *Skie*, in the beginning of *September*, and return again in *April*. There are several rocks about

this island, particularly one, called *The Round Table*, about half a mile in circumference, with a fresh-water spring, which makes an impregnable fort, there being only one way to climb up to it, by one man at a time. The natives of *Skie*, and the neighbouring islands, have a peculiar way of curing the distempers which are incident to them, by simples of their own product, wherein they are successful to a miracle: they have also several medicinal wells.

Sixty miles south-west from *Skie* lie nine islands, the chief of which is *Vaterfa*, which, besides many other conveniencies, has a large harbour, capable of receiving the largest ships, where, at stated times, great numbers of fishermen meet from the neighbouring countries.

Two miles from *Vaterfa* lies *Barra*, seven miles long, and three broad, called so from *St. Bar*, the tutelary saint. It is fruitful in corn, and noted for its cod-fishing. The sea enters this island at a small channel, and afterwards enlarges itself into a round bay, in which is an island, with a very strong castle. It has a good harbour on the north-east side, where is plenty of fish; and the rivulets on the east-side abound with salmon.

About a quarter of a mile south from *Barra* lies *Kisma*, the seat of *Mac Neil* of *Barra*, which is encompassed with a stone wall two stories high; within which there is a tower, a hall, a magazine, and other houses. They have a church in this island, and a chapel, where the *Mac Neils* are buried. The natives are papists, and generally very ignorant and superstitious.

Here are several other less islands belonging to *Mac Neil*; some of them fruitful enough in corn and grass, others left for pasturage, and some of them remarkable for fishing of ling and cod. The inhabitants are very healthy and hospitable: they have abundance of sea-fowl.

fowl; and, when they kill any of them for use, they salt them with the ashes of burnt sea-ware, which preserves them from putrefaction. *Mac Neil* holds his lands of Sir *Alexander Macdonald*, of *Slate*, to whom he pays 40*l.* *Scots per annum*, and an hundred *scots* required; and was obliged to furnish him with a certain number of men on extraordinary occasions.

Betwixt *Barra* and *Uist* lie 14 small islands, not very considerable.

A little north of *Barra* lies *South-uist*, 21 miles long, and in some places three, and in others four miles broad. The east-side is mountainous, but the west plain and arable. The island abounds with fresh-water lakes, which have plenty of fowl and fish, particularly trouts and eels. In several of them are islands with forts. There is one lake three miles long, into which the sea has made its way, though the people did all they could to hinder it. The inhabitants are healthy: one man lately lived 130 years, and retained his understanding. The *Irish* tongue is here spoken in great perfection. The *Macdonalds*, descended from the ancient kings of these islands, are proprietors, and with the inhabitants, profess the popish religion. The soil is generally sandy, but yields a good produce of barley, oats, and rye.

Betwixt this island and *North-uist*, two miles north, lies *Benbecula*. The ground is all plain and sandy betwixt them, except two little channels, about knee-deep at a tide of ebb; but the whole is navigable by boats at a tide of flood; and there lie several small islands on the east of these channels. *Benbecula* is three miles long, and three broad. It has a bay on the east side for small vessels, where herrings are sometimes taken. The east part of this island is arable: it has several fresh-water lakes well stored with fish and fowl, and some small forts upon the islands in

those lakes. The natives are papists, and the proprietor is one of the *Macdonalds*.

A little north of this island lies *North-uist*, belonging to Sir *Alexander Macdonald*, nine miles long, and about 30 in circumference. It is fitter for pasturage than cultivation on the east part, where it is mountainous; but the west-side is plain and arable, and where it is not ploughed, is covered with clover, daisy, and variety of other plants, very pleasant to the sight, and of a fragrant smell; and affords good pasturage. The grain here is barley, oats, and rye, which yields from ten to thirty-fold; and there is no doubt, but wheat would grow here very well. This island has several bays on the east-side, where ships may ride; the chief of which are *Loch-epart*, *Loch-rona*, and *Loch-maddes*; the latter is capable of containing hundreds of vessels of the largest size: 400 vessels have been laden with herrings there in a season. Cod, ling, and all sorts of fish that frequent the western seas, are to be found here. There is a small island in this bay, upon which a magazine was erected for carrying on a fishery in the reign of king *Charles I.* There is such a number of fresh-water lakes in this island, as can hardly be believed; they are generally well stored with trouts and eels, and, which is more strange, with cod, ling, and other sea-fish, brought into them by the spring-tides. These lakes have many small islands, which abound with variety of land and sea-fowl; and some of them have islands, with forts: it has also several rivers, which afford salmon, and some of them speckled, with large scales. The inhabitants are Protestants.

There are several other less islands, which lie on both sides of *North-uist*, the most remarkable of which is *Eousmil*, on the west, a rock about a quarter of a mile in circumference, noted for its seal-fishing about

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## WESTERN ISLES. 295

the end of *October*, where 320 were once taken at a time.

Three leagues and an half farther west lie nine or ten more rocks, which abound with sea-fowl, and great numbers of seals.

A little farther north lies *Borera*, four miles round: it has a fresh-water lake, well stored with large eels. This island affords the largest and best sort of dulce. It is possessed by the family of *Maclean*.

Half a league south from this lies *Lingay*, which furnishes the neighbouring islands with peat for fuel. It has abundance of black cattle, that make excellent meat; the natives salt it in the hides, which, they say, preserves it, and makes it taste better, than when salted in casks. This island abounds also with deer, sea and land-fowl of all sorts; among the rest, with hawks, eagles, and swans. The inhabitants of *South* and *North-uist* are generally well proportioned and healthy, and many of them live to a great age: they are very hospitable and kind to strangers.

The isle of *Lewes* derives its name from the *Irish* word *Leog*, signifying a lake, with which this island abounds: it is by the islanders commonly called *The Long Island*. It is near 100 miles from north to south, and from 13 to 14 in breadth. It is reckoned part of the shire of *Ross*; but the isle of *Lewes*, properly so called, is but 36 miles in length, and 10 or 12 broad; and belonged to the late earl of *Seaforth*. It reaches from the north of *Bowling-head* to the south of *Haffiness*. The southern part is named *Harries*. The air is temperately cold and moist, and the natives commonly use a dose of usquebaugh for a corrective. The island is healthy, especially in the middle, from south and north: it is arable on the west-side for about 16 miles on the coast; and is likewise plain and arable in several places in the east. It is fruitful in corn, and yields a good increase; their common grain is barley,

oats, and rye; and they have also flax and hemp. There are several convenient bays and harbours here; particularly *Loch-stornaway* on the east-side, in the middle of the island, on the side of which stands a neat regular town, called *Stornaway*, where are to be seen the ruins of a castle, said to be built by *Oliver Cromwell*; the *Birkin Island*, seven miles southward; *Loch-olmhit*, three miles farther south; *Löchsefert* and *Loch-earlway*, 24 miles south west. This bay is remarkable for great numbers of cod, ling, and whales, which frequent it; and all the bays and coasts abound with cod, ling, herring, and all other sorts of fish taken in the western seas, besides plenty of shell-fish of all sorts, in such vast numbers, that the inhabitants are not able to consume them. There are several extraordinary springs and fountains in this island, and abundance of caves on the coasts, which otters, seals, and fowl, frequent in great numbers. That obelisk (if I may call it so) in the parish of *Barwas*, in the island of *Lewes*, called *The Thrushel-stone*, is very remarkable; being not only above 20 feet high, but likewise almost as much in breadth, which no other comes near. The *Dien*, or fortification, built on an eminence in *St. Kilda*, which is an old fort, is about 18 leagues distant from *North-uist*, and 20 from the middle of *Lewes* or *Harries*, to be seen only in a very clear day, like a bluish mist; but a large fire there would be as visible at night, as the ascending smoke by day. In this small isle (where are many such *Duns*), north of the village of *Brags*, is a round fort, composed of huge stones, three stories high: that is, it has three hollow passages, one over another, within a prodigious thick wall quite round the fort, with many windows and stairs.

Here also, at the village of *Classernis*, is a *Druidical* temple extremely remarkable. The circle consists of 12 obelisks, about seven feet high each, and distant from each other six feet. In the center stands a stone

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13 feet high, in the perfect shape of the rudder of a ship. Directly south from the circle stand four obelisks running out in a line, another such line due east, and a third to the west: the number and distances of these stones being in these wings the same: so that this temple, the most entire that can be, is at the same time both round and winged. But to the north reach (by way of avenue) two strait ranges of obelisks, of the same bigness and distances with those of the circle; yet the ranges themselves are eight feet distant each, consisting of 19 stones, the 39th being in the entrance of the avenue. This temple stands astronomically, denoting the 12 signs of the zodiac, and the four principal winds, subdivided each into four others: by which, and the 19 stones on each side of the avenue, representing the cycle of 19 years, it appears to have been dedicated principally to the sun, but subordnately to the seasons, and the elements, particularly to the sea, and the winds, as is manifest by the rudder in the middle.

This island abounds with cows, horses, sheep, goats, and hogs; the black cattle are small, but very prolific, and prove excellent meat: the horses are likewise smaller than those on the continent, but as serviceable for all domestic uses, and live very hard, having little to feed upon in the spring but sea-ware. The inhabitants are well-proportioned, and in general healthy and strong, and of a sanguine complexion; they are very quick of apprehension, and lovers of poesy and music: they are dextrous in swimming, vaulting, and archery, and make stout able seamen.

In a little island near the greater one of *Lewes*, was a couple of eagles, which would never suffer any other of the kind to continue in the place: driving away their own young ones, as soon as they were able to fly. The natives said, that those eagles were so careful of their habitation, that they never killed any sheep

or lamb in the island, though the bones of lambs, fawns, and wild-fowl, were frequently found in and about their nests: so that they made their prey in the opposite islands, the nearest of which is a league distant.

There are many other less islands, which lie round this; the chief of which are, *Grave*, in the mouth of *Loch,arlway*, an high rock, half a mile in compass, affording good pasturage, and naturally a strong fort: the two *Berneras*, one two miles, and the other four miles long, and four miles broad; both fruitful in corn and grass.

Near *Carloway-bay* lie four small islands, which belong to the inhabitants of *Lewes*, who go thither every summer, and bring from thence great store of fowls, eggs, down, feathers, and quills: one of them is called the *Island of Pygmies*, because many little bones, resembling those of men, are digged out of the ground there.

Twenty leagues from the point of *Nefs*, in *Lewes*, lies *Rona*, a mile long, and half a mile broad. It has an hill on the west part, which makes it visible from *Lewes* in the summer time. It was inhabited by about five families, who had the island, and the fishery about it, divided among them, and were very exact and nice in their properties; and, when their number increased, the supernumeraries were sent to their landlord in *Lewes*, who once a year sends the minister of his parish, and a servant, to visit them, and bring his rents, which are paid in barley-meal, sewed up in skins, sea-fowl, and some fish, &c. They have a chapel dedicated to *St. Ronan*, in which they repeat the Lord's prayer, creed, and ten commandments, every Lord's-day. *Buchanan* says, that the inhabitants were, in his opinion, the only people in the world who never wanted any thing, and were satisfied with their condition, having plenty of all that they desired;  
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being equally ignorant of luxury and avarice, and possessing, through their freedom from vices, that innocence and tranquillity of mind, to which others can scarcely attain by great labour, and with the help of the best instructions. Mr. *Martin* affirms, in his *Description of the Western Islands*, that the ancient race of poor people was all destroyed about 40 years before in the following manner: first, a swarm of rats, none knows how, came into the island, and eat up all their corn: in the next place, some seamen landed, and robbed them of what provisions they had left. By this means they all died before the usual time of the arrival of the boat from *Lewis*; upon which another colony was sent thither.

Four leagues east from *Rona* lies *Soulisker*, a rock, a quarter of a mile in circumference, which abounds with vast numbers of sea-fowl, particularly *Solan* geese. On this rock there builds one fowl, not found elsewhere, called *colk*; it is less than a goose, and all covered with down, but of different colours, which it casts when it hatches; it has a tuft on its head resembling that of a peacock, and a train longer than that of an house-cock. There were formerly 24 churches in *Lewis* and *Harries*, and the islands belonging to them; but, to our shame may it be said, as papists were persecuted or discouraged, profaneness gained ground of superstition, and one sort of ignorance succeeded another; for, few or no ministers being sent with suitable provision and encouragement, places of religious worship became ruinous, and the service of God, and the edification of the people, very much neglected; so that several parishes in the *Highlands* and isles, at present, are 20, 30, or near 40 miles long, and very often without any minister at all.

That part which is called *Harries*, produces the same sorts of corn, but with a greater increase than *Lewis*. The west-side is for the most part arable on

the coast. It has a noble harbour called *Scalpa*, a mile and an half long, and a mile broad, and there are two other harbours within three leagues of it, which abound with oysters and other shell fish. They have excellent springs here, some of which are medicinal; one particularly near *Marvag* is good for restoring a lost appetite; and one near *Borve*, good against the colic and gravel. There are several caves on the mountains, and on each side of the coast, and in the middle of an high rock, capable of holding 50 men; which has two wells, and but a narrow pass to it by climbing up the rock; so that in time of war it is an impregnable fort. There are likewise several ancient forts in this island. The hills and mountains abound with deer, which none are allowed to hunt without leave from *Macleod* the proprietor. Metricks, a four-footed creature, about the size of a large cat, are pretty numerous here; their skins are very fine, of a brown colour, and make good fur; and, it is said, the dung of this animal yields a scent like musk. There are abundance of otters and seals here, great plenty of land and sea-fowl, and among others, eagles, and very good hawks. The inhabitants both of *Lewis* and *Harries* are Protestants.

There are other islands of small extent belonging to the *Harries*, the chief of which are—*Bernera*, two leagues to the south: it is five miles in circumference, very fruitful in barley and rye, and yields sometimes from 20 to 30 fold. There are two chapels in this island.

Half a league from thence to the westward lies *Pabbay*, three miles in circumference, and fruitful in corn and grass: it has also two chapels.

Half a league to the north lies *Sellay*, a mile in circumference; it yields extraordinary pasture for sheep, which it fattens very soon, and those bred there have very large horns.

*Taranfay*, a league farther north, is three miles round, fruitful in corn and grass, and yields much yellow talc.

There are several other islands in the neighbourhood, of two or three miles in circumference each, all tolerably fruitful in corn and pasturage; particularly *Hermatra*, where a magazine for the fishery was erected in the reign of king *Charles I.*

Eighteen leagues west from *Northuis*, and 20 from *Harries*, lies the island called *St. Kilda*, or *Hirta*. As this *Hirta* is the most north-west, so *Dow Hirta* is the most south-west of all the *Scots* islands. The first, properly called *St. Kilda*, is two miles long, and one broad, faced round with a steep rock, except at the bay on the south-east, where vessels enter. The land rises high in the middle, and there are several fountains of good water on each side the island. Their grain is oats and barley, the latter accounted the largest in the Western Isles. The inhabitants are about 200 in number, very well proportioned and comely: they are Protestants, and very zealous, according to their knowledge, which is but small, for want of instruction. They are very regular and just in their conversation, and strangers to luxury and excess, being ignorant of the use of money. They have a chapel, where they assemble on the Lord's-day, to hear the Lord's-prayer, creed, and ten-commandments, and neither work themselves, nor will allow any stranger to work, on that day. It belongs to the laird of *Macleod*, the chief of that ancient clan, who commonly makes some cadet of his family steward of this island, to receive his rents, which are paid in fish, fowl, feathers, wool, butter, cheese, cattle, and corn: and the steward's deputy is, in his absence, the chief man of the island; and generally, except when a minister is sent thither from *Harries*, baptizes and marries. They have an altar and crucifix in their chapel,

chapel, which have continued there since the time of popery ; and, though they pay no worship to the crucifix, yet they swear decisive oaths, by laying their hands upon it, and take the marriage-oath in the same manner. Not long ago an illiterate fellow, one of the natives, imposed upon their ignorance, by pretending that *St. John the Baptist*, and the *Virgin Mary*, had appeared to him, and taught him sermons, prayers, and hymns ; the latter, he alleged, were effectual to secure women against miscarriage ; and his price for teaching them was a sheep. He told them of a little hill, where *St. John* and the *Virgin* appeared to him ; and made them believe, that, if any of their black cattle, or sheep, came near to taste the grass of that hill, they must immediately be killed and eaten ; and it was necessary, that he himself should always partake of the treat. He was discovered at last by his lewd attempts upon several women ; and being, by *Macleod's* order, transported from hence to *Harries*, he made public confession of his imposture in several churches, and seemed to be very penitent ; but was not allowed to return any more. Their houses are low, built of stone, and a cement of dry earth, and covered with turf thatched over with straw. They make their beds in the walls of their houses, and lie commonly on straw, though they have great plenty of feathers and down. They live altogether in a little village, on the east-side of the island, in good harmony ; are very exact and nice in their several properties, and allow no encroachment upon one another ; nor will they admit of it from their landlord, or his steward ; but pay exactly what they agree for. The island is naturally strong, and, with a little art, might be made impregnable. There is an old fort at the south-end of the bay.

In the island of *St. Kilda* is the house of a *druidess*, built all of stone, without lime, mortar, or earth, to cement

ceint it: it is also arched, and of a conic figure, but open at the top, and a fire-place in the middle of the floor. It cannot contain above nine persons to sit easy by each other. From the side of the wall go off three low vaults, separated from each other by pillars, and capable of containing five persons a-piece.

They have two other islands, which belong to them; one called *Soa*, about half a mile from the west-side of *St. Kilda*, a mile in circumference, and very high and steep all round.

The other is called *Borera*, lies about two miles north of *St. Kilda*, is about a mile in circumference, and most of it surrounded with an high rock. All three afford good pasturage, and abound with prodigious numbers of sea-fowl from *March* till *September*. They eat the *Solan* geese-eggs raw, and say they are good pectorals. They have another bird here, called *fulmar*, about the size of a moor-hen; it picks its food out of live whales, and other fishes. When any one approaches them, they spout out pure oil from their bills, which the natives have a way to catch, when they surprise the fowl; and make use of it for their lamps, and likewise as a remedy against rheumatic pains, aches, and other distempers. Both sexes have a genius for poesy, are very hospitable to strangers, and charitable to their own poor; for whose maintenance they all contribute in proportion. They have but one boat belonging to the island, in which every man has a share proportionable to the rent he pays. The men are generally strong, stout rowers, and will tug a long time at the oar without intermission. They use no compass, but take their measure from the sun, moon, or stars, and chiefly from the courses of the flocks of the sea-fowl, because they know very well to what rocks or islands they resort. They are excellent at climbing of rocks, being accustomed to it from their infancy, in order to catch the



the fowl which build on them. They have two ropes, which belong to them in common, for climbing the rocks; they are 24 fathom in length each, and covered with cows hides salted, to prevent their being cut by the rocks. The men climb by turns, and bring home some thousands of eggs and fowls at a time. They also make gins of horse-hair, for catching the fowl: yet sometimes they lose their lives by climbing. The richest man in the island has not above 8 cows, 80 sheep, and two or three horses. They have no money, but barter with one another for what they want.

I shall conclude this description of the Western Islands with an extract from Mr. Toland's Specimen of the History of the Druids; where he treats in general of the properties of all these isles, whither, it seems, he had intended to have travelled, in order to perfect his history, and rescue many valuable pieces of antiquity from oblivion.

"It is certain, says that gentleman, no country abounds more with the necessities of life, and at less labour or charge, than the *Hebrides*. In the first place, there is known to be, in those islands, a prodigious plenty of flesh and fish. Their cattle of all sorts (as cows, sheep, goats, and hogs) are exceeding numerous and prolific; small indeed of size (as are likewise their horses) but of a sweet and delicious taste; so are their deer, which freely range in herds on the mountains. No place can compare with this for tame and wild fowl, there being of the latter none where in the world a greater diversity, many sorts of them extremely beautiful, and rare, or utterly unknown elsewhere. The like may be said of their various amphibious animals. Numberless are their fountains and springs, rivulets, rivers, and lakes, very wholesome in their waters, and every where superabounding with fish, especially the most delicate,

as trout and salmon: nor is it by herrings alone, that all *Europe* knows no seas to be better stored, nor with more kinds, from the shrimp to the whale; as no harbours or bays are superior, whether regard be had to number or commodiousness. Add to this their variety of excellent roots and plants, particularly those of marine growth, every one of them serving for food or physic. Their pastures are so kindly, that they might live on milk alone, with that inconceivable quantity of eggs they yearly gather off the desert rocks and islets.

“ *Lewes* is very fruitful; and, though barley, oats, and rye, be the only grain sown there at present, yet the ground, both in that, and most of the other islands, is fit to bear wheat, and consequently legumes of all sorts. It is truly amazing they have any crop at all, considering how unskilful they are in agriculture, how destitute of the proper instruments to till the ground, and that they scarce use any other manure but seaweed or tangles. From the ignorance of the inhabitants in these respects, as also in planting, inclosing, and draining, many fruitful spots lie uncultivated: but they are abundantly supplied with choice eatables, and the most nourishing shell-fish.

“ It is evident that these islands are capable of great improvement, as they abound in many curiosities, especially in subjects of philosophical observation. Nor is it less plain, by the many ancient monuments remaining among them, and the marks of the plough reaching to the very tops of the mountains (which the artless inhabitants think incapable of culture), that in remote ages they were in a far more flourishing condition than at present. The ruins of spacious houses, and the numerous obelisks, old forts, temples, altars, &c. undeniably prove this; besides, that the country was formerly full of woods, as appears by the great oak and fir-trees daily dug out of the ground, and by many

many other tokens, there being several woods and coppices still remaining in *Skie*, *Mull*, and other places. The inhabitants are not to be mended in the proportion of their persons; no preposterous bandages distorting them in the cradle, nor hindering nature from duly forming their limbs; which is the reason, that bodily imperfections of any sort are very rare among them. Neither does any over-officiously preventive physic, in their infancy, spoil their original constitution; whence they have so strong a habit of body, that one of them requires treble the dose as will purge any man in the south of *Scotland*. But what contributes, above all things, to their health and longevity, is constant temperance and exercise. Their food is commonly fresh, and their meals two a day, water being the ordinary drink of the vulgar. They cure all disorders of the body by simples of their own growth, and by proper diet or labour: hence they are stout and active, dextrous in all their exercises; as they are withal remarkably sagacious, choleric, but easily appeased, sociable, good-natured, ever cheerful, and having a strong inclination to music. They are hospitable beyond expression, entertaining all strangers, of what condition soever, *gratis*; the use of money being still, in some of those islands, unknown, and, till a few ages past, in all of them. They have no lawyers, or attornies: the men and women plead their own causes; and a very speedy decision is made by the proprietor, who is perpetual president in their courts, or by his bailiff, as his substitute.

“ The present (says *Mr. Toland*) is the 35th lord of *Barra* by uninterrupted lineal descent, a thing whereof no prince in the world can boast; and he is regarded as no mean potentate by his subjects, who know none greater than he. When the wife of any of them dies he has immediate recourse to his lord, representing first his own loss in the want of a female companion;

companion; and next, that of *Mac Neil*, his lord himself, if he should not go on to beget followers for him. Hereupon *Mac Neil* finds out a suitable match, (neither side ever disliking his choice, but accepting it as the highest favour); and the marriage is celebrated without any courtship, portion, or dowry: but they never fail to make merry, on such occasions, with a bottle or more of usquebaugh. On the other hand, when any woman becomes a widow, she is, upon the like application, soon provided with an husband, and with as little ceremony. *Mac Neil* also supplies any of his tenants with as many milk-cows, as he may chance to lose by the severity of the weather, or by other misfortunes. He takes likewise into his own family, and maintains to the day of their death, as many old men, as through age and infirmity, become unfit for labour, an house being built hard by on purpose for them."

*Of the Northern Isles of SCOTLAND.*

WE come now to the isles of *Orkney* and *Shetland*. The *Orkneys*, called by the *Latins* *Orcades*, have the *Caledonian* ocean on the west, the *German* ocean on the east, the sea that divides them from *Shetland* on the north, and *Pentland Firth*, 24 miles long, and 12 broad, which divides them from the main land of *Scotland*, on the south. Ancient authors differ about their number: *Pliny* reckoned them 40, *Orosius* 33; but it appears by late discoveries, that they are only 28. They lie in longitude 22 deg. 11 min. latitude 59 deg. 2 min. The longest day is 18 hours and some odd minutes: the winters, as in most small islands, and indeed always near the sea, are generally more subject to rain than snow. The frost and snow do not continue long, but the wind is very boisterous; and

## 308 ORKNEY ISLES.

and it rains sometimes not by drops, but by violent spouts of water.

*Stroma* lies so near the coast of *Caithness*, that it was always possessed by the earls of that county, and therefore not reckoned among the *Orcades*. This is a small island, but not unfruitful. Authors are not agreed as to the reason of giving the name of *Pentland Firth* to that strait, in breadth about 12 miles, which lies between the *Orcades* and the main land: some say, it is a corruption of the word *Pictland Firth*, which was so called, because the *Picts* formerly inhabited those islands, and part of the neighbouring continent; and that many of them perished here, when repulsed by the ancient inhabitants of *Orkney*.

Others think *Pentland Firth* the proper name; and that it was so nominated from the *Highlands* or hills in the North of *Scotland*, by which it is bounded on one side, for the same reason that the high hills, which take their rise some miles south-west of *Edinburgh*, are called *Pentland Hills*. This firth is remarkable for its swift, violent, and contrary tides, occasioned by the multitude of the isles, and the narrowness of the passage, which makes it very dangerous, especially to strangers; and, which is remarkable, the whirlpools, with which the firth abounds, occasioned, as is thought, by some hiatuses in the earth below, are most dangerous in a calm, and whirl the boats or ships round, till they swallow them up; but if there be any wind, and the boat under sail, they are passed without danger. The mariners, who carry passengers between the main land and the isles, if at any time they are driven near those whirlpools by the tide, throw a barrel, or, bundle of straw, or any other bulky thing that comes to hand, into the whirlpools, which make them smooth enough till the vessel pass over them; and what is thus cast in, is generally found floating again a mile or two distant. The dif-

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ferent tides in this firth are reckoned 24, and run with such impetuous force, that no ship under sail, with the fairest wind, is able to make way against them; yet the natives on both sides, who know the proper seasons, pass it every day safely, except when the weather is tempestuous.

The first of the *Orkney* islands is *South Ronaldsa*, between seven and eight miles in length; and in some places five, in others scarce two miles broad. It is fruitful in corn, and well inhabited; it has a safe harbour on the north side, but the south-east has the dangerous rocks called *Pentland Skerries*; it abounds with cattle, and has two united parish churches, whereof the dean was minister.

A little to the south-west lies *Swinna*, a small island, about four miles in length from west to east; and in some parts two, in others only one mile in breadth. It is fruitful in corn, capable of maintaining a few husbandmen, and their families; has a good fishery on its coasts, and is noted for a good slate-quarry. The whirl-pools near this island are called the *Wells of Swinna*.

Beyond *Swinna* lie *Waves* and *Hoy*, which are but one isle, 12 miles long, and full of high mountains: that part called *Waves* is fruitful, and very well inhabited. This island has several good harbours, particularly that called *North-Hope*, one of the best in the world, and properest for those who design a fishing-trade. That part called *Hoy*, from which it is only separated by a spring-tide, has the highest mountains in *Orkney*, and the deepest vallies; which strike a terror into strangers, who have occasion to travel that way. On these mountains there are many sheep, which run wild, and are scarcely to be caught by any art. On *Rora head*, an high and rugged promontory in this island, an extraordinary fowl, which the inhabitants call *lyer*, builds its nest; it is about the size of a duck,

# 310 O R K N E Y I S L E S.

a duck, and so fat, that it seems to be nothing else; the inhabitants admire it much, and venture their lives to climb for it by ropes, &c. It is reckoned delicious food, eaten with vinegar and pepper. On a barren heath in this island lies an oblong stone, in a valley between two moderate hills, called, by way of contraries, the *Dwarfy Stone*. It is 36 feet long, 18 feet broad, and 9 feet high: no other stones are near it: it is all hollowed within, having a door on the east-side, two feet square, with a stone of the same dimension, lying about two feet from it; which was intended, no doubt, to close this entrance. Within is cut out, at the south-end of it, the form of a bed and pillow, capable of holding two persons, as, at the north-end, is another bed, both very neatly done. Above, at an equal distance from both, is a large round hole; which is supposed not only to have been designed for letting in light and air, when the door was shut, but likewise for letting out smoke from the fire, for which there is a place made in the middle between the two beds. The mark of the workman's tool appear every where; and the tradition of the vulgar is, that a giant and his wife had this stone for their habitation; though the door alone destroys this fancy which is wholly groundless every way besides. Just by it is a clear and pleasant spring, for the use of the inhabitant.

From the top of these hills the sun is to be seen, all night about the summer solstice. On the north part of this island are a church, a gentleman's seat, and several farm houses, as also many lakes, which abound with fish, especially trouts.

Three miles from *South Ronaldsa* lies *Burra*, three mile, long and one broad, fruitful in corn and pasturage, and affords excellent fuel. *Stewart* of *Mainland* built a noble and sumptuous stone house here. This island

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# ORKNEY ISLES. 311

island abounds with rabbits, and has a chapel; but belongs to the parish of *South Ronaldsa*.

West from this lies *Flotta*, five miles long, and three and a half broad, most of it encompassed with high rocks. It has a church, and a gentleman's seat; and abounds with excellent land fowl in its heaths, but has little corn ground, and not many inhabitants.

Near this lie *Fara*, *Cava*, and *Gransey*, fruitful and pleasant, though small islands.

We pass by several *holms*, as they call them, which are left for pasturage, and come to *Pomona*, the largest of the *Orkney* islands, and for that reason called the *Mainland*. It is very regular in its form, shooting northward about 16 miles in length, and about nine in breadth. It is very fruitful, and well inhabited; though there are no trees in all these islands, but what grow in the bishop's gardens at *Kirkwall*, the only town in *Orkney*, a royal burgh, long possessed by the *Norwegians*, pleasantly situated upon a bay, near the middle of it. It is about a mile in length, and is the seat of justice, where the sheriffs, &c. keep their courts. It consists of one street, which is narrow; but the houses are well built, and most of them covered with slate. The crown had formerly a strong castle here, which now is in ruins. Near the castle stands a stately house, formerly the bishop's seat, and near to that a palace, which was begun by *Patrick Stewart*, earl of *Orkney*, in the year 1574, but not finished, because of his untimely death: several rooms of it have been curiously painted with scripture stories. At the north-end of the town is a fort built by the *English*, during *Oliver Cromwell's* administration, ditched about, with a breast-work, and other fortifications, on which they have some cannon planted, for the defence of the harbour. There is a stately cathedral church here, called by the name of *St. Magnus*, who, the natives say, was their first apostle: it

is very magnificent for this part of the world, and built of hewn stone, excellently polished: it has 14 pillars on each side, and a steeple erected on four large pillars in the middle, with fine bells in it. There are so many turnings, that it is hard for a stranger to find the same way out or in. Here is a public grammar-school. They have a charter for two weekly markets, and an annual fair, which holds three days. The town is governed by a provost, four bailiffs, and a common-council. This island has nine parish churches, many promontories, and bays, and several mines of good white and black lead: it has also several gentlemen's seats, and divers lakes and rivulets, which abound with salmon and other fish. It has four very good harbours, viz. one at *Kirkwall*, both large and safe; another at *Deerfount*, very large, with good anchorage, and capable of receiving the greatest fleets: the third is at *Graham's-hall*; and the fourth at *Kerston*, which is very commodious, and well-fenced against all winds. In this island are two temples, where the natives believe by tradition, that the sun and moon were worshipped; which belief of theirs is very right, since the lesser temple is semicircular: the greater is 100 paces diameter. There are two green mounts erected at the east and west-end of it; and round each of the temples a trench or ditch is drawn, like that about *Stone-henge*. Many of the stones are about 20 or 24 feet in height above the ground, about five in breadth, and a foot or two in thickness. Some of them are fallen down, and the temples are one on the east, and the other on the west-side of the lake of *Stennis*, where it is shallow and fordable, there being a passage over by large stepping-stones. Near the smaller temple (which is on the east-side of the lake, as the greater on the west) stand two stones of the same bigness with the rest; through the middle of one of which runs a

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VOL. IV

# ORKNEY ISLES. 313

great hole, by which criminals and victims were tied.

East from the *Mainland* lies *Coppinsha*, a small but very high island, fruitful in corn and grass; has good fishing, and abounds with fowl. It is very conspicuous to seamen, as is the holm to the north-east of it, called the *Horse of Coppinsha*.

North from the *Mainland* lies *Shapinsha*, five or six miles long, and three broad; it has a very safe harbour, and a parish-church.

To the south-east lies *Stronsa*, seven miles long, and four broad, well known, because of its good harbours, to those who frequent this country and *Shetland* for fishing: it is very fruitful, and well inhabited; and has a rock belonging to it, called *Outerrie*, remarkable for its good fishery.

A little north east of it lies a little pleasant isle, called *Papa-Stronsa*, very fruitful and well inhabited.

Farther north lies *Sanda*, about 12 miles long, and 3 broad, well inhabited, and has two harbours; it abounds with cattle, hay, and fish; but the inhabitants are obliged to bring their fuel from *Eda*, which lies west of it; it is 10 miles long, and in some places five miles broad. There is good salt made here; and it abounds with fish and fowl, but not with corn and grass.

Three miles west from *Kirkwall* lies *Damsay*, a small, but fruitful island, and abounds with fish.

To the north-west lies *Rousa*, 8 miles long, and 6 broad; it has many promontories, and high hills, but on the coast is fruitful, and well inhabited; it abounds also with fowl, fish, and rabbits.

There are several other islands in the neighbourhood, which are fruitful enough for their extent.

Eight miles north from *Kirkwall* lies *Eglisba*, 3 miles long, and 2 broad; it has a safe road for ships, is very pleasant and fruitful, and has a parish-church.

Five miles north-east lies *North Fara*, 3 miles long; it is but thinly inhabited, but affords the general commodities of the country.

# 314 ORKNEY ISLES.

*South Fara*, which lies near *Burra*, is much of the same extent and nature.

North from *Eglisba* lies *Westra*, eight miles long; in some places five, and in others three miles broad; it is well inhabited, abounds with corn, cattle, fish, and rabbits; and has a strong castle, with a convenient harbour.

Two miles north-east lies *Papa-Westra*, three miles long, a mile and a half broad, is well inhabited, has a good harbour, and, together with the other *Westra*, makes up a parish. In this island stand, near a lake (now called *St. Tredwell's Loch*), two obelisks, in one of which is an hole used by the heathens for the tying of criminals and victims; and, behind them, lying on the ground, a third stone, hollowed like a trough.

The people of the *Orcades* are generally healthy, stout, and well proportioned: they are more numerous than might be imagined. *Bleau*, in his *Atlas*, says, they mustered 10,000 men at once, near *Kirk-wall*, fit to carry arms, besides those that were left to cultivate the ground. The commodities, which they export yearly, are butter, tallow, hides, barley, malt, oat-meal, fish, salted beef, pork, rabbit-skins, otter-skins, white salt, stuffs, stockings, wool, hams, quills, down, feathers, &c. *Molucca* beans, figured stones, and peculiar sorts of fish and fowls, are found here. The *Clai*k geese, or *barnacles*, which are reckoned to breed in the trunks of trees, or in the timber of old ships, and have been so frequently seen about these and the neighbouring islands, have occasioned abundance of wrangling among the learned. Some of them have denied the matter of fact, and boldly asserted, there could be no such thing in nature, as that birds should proceed from trees; others who could not resist the evidence of so many persons of credit, who had seen and attested the hanging of

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birds of that sort to the trunks of trees, &c. have had recourse to such strange philosophical notions for explaining this phenomenon, as still made the thing more ridiculous and incredible. But there are two ways to solve this difficulty, found out by modern authors, both of which seem very probable: the first is the *concha anatifera*, mentioned by Sir Robert Sibbald, in his Natural History of Scotland, book III. part II. chap. 12. wherein he says, that those shells stick to sea-ware, or logs of fir, and suck nourishment from them; that the animal contained in those shells is a fish, but unshapely, and sends out such a multitude of feet, as resemble hair, which the unwary observer takes for feathers: and of this animal Sir Robert has given us a cut at the end of his book. Dr. Wallis, in his Description of Orkney, has done the like; and tells us, he has seen some thousands of those *conchæ*, sticking to logs of wood driven ashore in that country. But the solution given by a late author, in his Curiosities of Nature and Art in Husbandry and Gardening, printed at London, p. 311. seems to be still more plain, if the fact be true, viz. that the *barnacles* lay their eggs, as fish do theirs, and leave them at the mercy of the waves; and that as they float, they stick to what they meet, especially rotten wood, sea-ware, and other maritime plants, upon which we may observe a glutinous substance; and that they are hatched there by the heat of the sun.

The people of the *Orcades*, generally speaking, are very civil and industrious, hospitable, sober, and religiously disposed. Though the air is sharp and cold, yet it may be called temperate. They are generally long-lived, the women handsome, bearing children sometimes at 60 years. They are seldom afflicted with fevers, stone, or gout; but are often liable to the scurvy, agues, and consumptions. They generally speak the *English* tongue after the *Scots* way; but

### 316 ORKNEY ISLES.

many ancient people of the poorer sort speak the *Norse*, *Norway*, or old *Danish* tongue, which has been continued from the first planters of these islands. They have plenty of black cattle, sheep, swine, rabbits, geese, and several sorts of fish. They export great quantities of oil, butter, and salt-fish, which turn to good account. Their corn-land is every where inclosed; and without these inclosures their sheep and swine, and most of their cattle, go loose, without an herdsman.

They formerly had their own kings, after the manner of the *Picts*, who were harassed by the *Romans*; but, by the injury of time, or negligence of writers, only two are come to the knowledge of posterity, viz. *Bladus* or *Balus*, and *Ganus*, who was cotemporary with *Caractacus*, the 18th king of *Scotland*, in the first century.

These isles, it is likely, were under their own princes (of the *Pictish* blood), till they were subdued by king *Kenneth Macalpin*, about the year 840. But, anno 1099, *Donald Bane* having assigned them to the king of *Norway*, for assisting him in his usurpation, the *Norwegians* invaded them; and were masters for about 164 years, when *Magnus* king of *Norway* sold all again to *Alexander* king of *Scotland*, who gave the property hereof to a nobleman, surnamed *Speire*, an heiress of whose family brought it to the *Sinclairs*, or *St. Clares*, one of whom carried the title of prince of *Orkney*, duke of *Oldenburgh*, &c. and married a daughter of the king of *Denmark*. But one of his successors having forfeited, the title and estate fell to the crown; though, in truth, the *Scots* reaped but little profit by them, being often disturbed by the kings of *Denmark* and *Norway*, who claimed the sovereignty; and, in some measure, continued possessed of it, till the marriage of king *James III.* with a daughter of *Denmark*, when they were first mortgaged for a great

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sum, due then by a contract; and thereafter, upon her bringing forth a son (afterwards king *James IV.*) the entire right to them was surrendered to king *James III.* which was farther confirmed to king *James VI.* upon his marrying *Anne* his queen, the king of *Denmark's* daughter. The earldom of *Orkney*, and lordship of *Zetland*, continued in the crown, till queen *Mary*, being to marry *James Hepburn*, earl of *Bothwell*, by fatal advice of her privy council, advanced him to the dignity of duke of *Orkney*. After his death, king *James VI.* created a natural son of king *James V.* earl; which failing in his son, it returned to the crown; and, anno 1647, *William Douglas*, earl of *Morton*, having advanced, as he said, great sums to king *Charles I.* procured this country in mortgage for his money; but it was redeemed, and, by act of Parliament, all re-annexed to the crown, anno 1669, excepting what belonged to the bishop; which act suppressed the office of sheriff, and erected one with a different name, viz. to be called, the Stewartry of *Orkney* and *Zetland*. But the said country, by the Union-Parliament, was dissolved from the crown; and her late majesty thereupon granted the same to the then earl of *Morton*, for payment of the yearly sum of 500*l.* and appointed him steward and justicier within the bounds thereof. The late earl, however, sold, as before observed, those offices, &c. to the present Sir *Lawrence Dundas*. Under the steward are some judges of his creation and appointment, called bailiffs: in every parish and isle there is one. Their office is to oversee the manners of the inhabitants, to hold courts, and to determine in civil matters, to the value of 10*l.* Scots (16*s.* 8*d.* English); but if the matter be above, it is referred to the steward, or his deputy. Under and subservient to those bailiffs are six or seven of the most honest and intelligent persons within the parish, called *Lawright-men*: these in their



respective bounds, have the oversight of the people, in manner of constables, and inform the bailiff of such enormities, as occasionally happen, which the latter punishes according to the importance and circumstances of the fault; and, if it be above his limits, or the extent of his power, he sends the delinquent to the seat of justice, which is held, as we hinted, at *Kirkwall*, by the steward, or his deputy. These *lawright-men* have a privilege inherent to their office by the custom of the country, which is not usual elsewhere; and this is, if there be any suspicion of theft, they take some of their neighbours with them, during the silence of the night, and make search for the theft, which is called *ransacking*, from *ransaka*, which is to make enquiry, in the ancient *Danish*: they search every house they come to, and seizing him upon whom the theft is found, bring him to the seat of justice.

The Christian religion was not only preached, but planted very early in these isles; for we find *Servanus* (or *St. Serf*) was their bishop, and preceptor to the famous *Kentigern* (whom, in a familiar way, he called *Mongah*, or *Mungo*, in his vulgar tongue), who founded the bishopric of *St. Asaph* in *Wales*, about the year 560, and who had been also bishop of *Glasgow*. And anno 1071, the people of *Orkney* sent one of their clergy to *York*, with letters, desiring that archbishop (who was then, in fact, possessed of a jurisdiction over the church of *Scotland*) to consecrate him to be their bishop. The last popish bishop was *Adam Hepburn*, who conformed to the Reformation, and lived many years after it. He was an eminent man in his time, a lord of council and session; he crowned king *James VI.* was father to the lord *Holy-rood-house*, where he was abbot, and where his tomb remains to this day. The brave lieutenant general *George Hamilton*, field-marshal of *Great Britain*, was earl of *Orkney*.

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## ORKNEY ISLES. 319

The bare description of these islands, short and simple as it is, will be abundantly sufficient to shew, (says a learned and modern writer\*) that the *Orkneys* are very far from being mean or inconsiderable, even in point of territory or extent; since, taken together, they are equal to the county of *Huntingdon* in *South Britain*, of much the same size with the principality of *Neuchâtel* in *Switzerland*, and not at all inferior in this respect to *Zealand*, which is the third of the *United Provinces*. In point of situation, these islands have also many, and those very singular advantages. They are in the very centre of trade, or at least might be made so, to all the northern kingdoms of *Europe*; they lie open at all seasons for the navigation to and from *America*, and are seated in the middle between the *Shetland* and the *Western Islands*; to which we may add, that vessels from them may run down with equal facility either on the east or on the west-side of *Great Britain*.

This subject may be, (and surely, on all the principles of humanity, justice, and sound policy, it deserves to be) placed in a stronger and more conspicuous point of light; for, though hitherto little considered, these remote islands are most conveniently and happily disposed, from their different sizes and circumstances, for the introduction of many valuable commodities from foreign countries, to encrease the number of their materials; and the same methods might be used for the improvement of their own breed of horses, swine, sheep, goats, and black cattle. Thus supplied with the means of an easy and plentiful subsistence, together with an additional stock of commodities, proper to exercise their skill, their labour, and their application, and the present inhabitants being instructed by a few families sent and set-

\* *Campbell's Political Survey of Great Britain*, Vol. I. p. 662.

tled among them for that purpose, these isles, in the space of a few years, would be made, what it is the undoubted interest of *Britain* they should be made, the seats of a variety of manufactures; by the help of which, the people who live there would quickly be enabled to carry on a beneficial and extensive foreign trade; more especially if to, or rather previous to, all these considerations, we add, that which is indeed the most obvious improvement, their entering into, and steadily pursuing what was intended them by nature, almost every kind of fishery.

There is no doubt of the possibility of embracing most, if not all these means, of emerging from want and insignificance; and if a few vigorous steps were once taken, in order to give a beginning to any of these, it would soon change the face of affairs in the *Orkneys*. We should then gradually see, what surely was the design of Providence, every island, holm, and rock, applied to some useful purpose; and the people being enabled and encouraged to be industrious, would, seizing with alacrity what they have so long and ardently sighed for, become active in agriculture, fishing, manual arts, navigation, and commerce, and of course, from the vigorous exertion of their own industry, become easy and happy. As the natural and infallible consequence of such a change, instead of their being as they are of little use to themselves, and scarce at all known to the inhabitants of the southern parts of *Britain*, it would, in no very long space, bring their numerous islands to be esteemed a very valuable and profitable province of the *British* empire.

It is, from the preceding account of these isles and their produce, rendered manifest, that there are sufficient materials in them to work upon; and, indeed, this was observed and insisted upon above a century ago. But because it was neglected then, and has been so ever since, it does not follow, that it ought to

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# ORKNEY ISLES. 321

be neglected for ever, more especially by so potent a nation, and in an age of speculation like this, so fertile in, and so famous for, its its improvements. The *Orkneys*, from their central situation, seem to be extremely fit for the erecting a general magazine of all things requisite for every kind of fishery, and being within a day's sail of the *Western Islands* on one side, and the *Shetland Isles* on the other, they might be commodiously furnished from thence with the means of entering at once upon this important branch of husbandry, in their own bottoms, and for their own benefit, which would infallibly, and without any other assistance, put this trade totally and for ever into the hands of *British* subjects. Several of these islands are no less happily disposed for the *Greenland* and *North American* whale-fishery; for here they might deposit their stores, bring hither their blubber, extract their oil, and from hence export it in casks to proper markets. In time of war, these islands would be an excellent station for a small squadron of his majesty's ships, as well for the protection of our own commerce, as for annoying that of our enemies; in which light also, its ports and roads would be very convenient for privateers.

It would be highly expedient to introduce the *Dutch* model, for rendering islands, in their own nature much worse than these, rich and flourishing. This is no other, than maturely considering, and then carefully adapting, particular matters to such islands, as from their size, situation, produce, and natural advantages, are fittest for their reception. Such, for example, as encouraging boats, sloops, and bark-building, in any island where there are many creeks and bays of different sizes, for the commodious launching and convenient reception of such vessels when built. The encouraging, in some or other of the larger islands, the raising and manufacturing of hemp and flax,

flax, for the important purposes of making twine, nets, cordage, and other fishing and naval stores, than which nothing would be easier, when sufficient markets are once open for them among themselves.

These are modes of improvement which have been, some of them at least, mentioned long ago, and are all of them so plain and obvious, that they cannot be controverted; but there are two others which must not be omitted. The first is the erecting an *university*, which might be done at a very small expence, added to the application of what the people pay in virtue of the old ecclesiastical establishment. This university, from the central situation of the *Orkneys*, would probably be attended with the following happy effects. First, it would take away the necessity of sending the youth out of the country, where their parents are compelled to be at the charge of their education, and who, from this very circumstance of being brought up in another place, and accustomed to other objects, people, and manners, are so weaned from their country, that not one in five of them return. In the next place, it would save the expence which their parents are now at, or, in other words, would keep considerable sums of money in the country, (which now, and unless some such remedy is applied, will for ever go out of it), and consequently contribute to encrease the circulation, which is a point of infinite importance. Lastly, it would attract numbers of young persons from the northern extremity of the continent, from the islands, and it may be from *Norway*, *Denmark*, and *Germany*, which would bring both men and money into the *Orkneys*, and be productive of other advantages.

If this description and account of their produce and resources, should be so fortunate as to throw light sufficient on this subject, to induce any able and intelligent administration, to look with attention upon  
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## SHETLAND ISLES. 323

the *Orkneys*, and by the methods here proposed, or any other, enable the inhabitants to turn their abilities and labour to their own, and to the public emolument, it will certainly produce very salutary, perhaps very surprising effects. The bringing the endeavours of 30,000 persons to live in that ease, and with those comforts their fellow-subjects in general enjoy, would encrease their correspondence with *Britain* and other countries, promote the consumption of their commodities and manufactures, and consequently the revenues of the excise as well as customs. These are advantages we have sought, by peopling countries at a vast distance: would there be less prudence in drawing the same resources here at home, especially as we know not how soon our distant connections may fail us? These people are confessed to be frugal and diligent; but they wish to find the sweets of their own labour, and to feel their industry rewarded. What is this but an earnest inclination to resume their fisheries, to serve on board our fleets, to bring more raw commodities to our markets, in order to carry more of our manufactures to theirs, to be instructed in our arts, to copy our examples, and thereby add to the mutual splendor of the *British* islands? Ought we not to turn an eye to such people, ought we not to encourage their desires? In a word, ought we not to put it in their power to pay us tribute?

From this general survey of the *Orkneys*, let us proceed to the SHETLAND ISLANDS, between which and the former lies the *Fair-Isle*, which, rises up in three high promontories, and is seen both in *Orkney* and *Shetland*. It is full three miles long, scarce half a mile broad, and very craggy. There is in this island a small quantity of arable land, which is very fruitful, and well manured: they might have considerably more; but they are obliged to preserve this for peat and pasturage. They have, for the size of the

# 324 SHETLAND ISLES.

island, a great many sheep, and those are very good and fat; but they have no kind of moor-fowl or other game, but great plenty of sea and water-fowl, and all kinds of fish upon their coasts. They have a very pretty church, but no minister, being annexed to one of the parishes in *Shetland*, or served by an itinerant minister, as some late accounts assert. A layman reads the Scriptures every *Sunday* in the church, the inhabitants being a very religious, harmless, sober, and honest people. This island produced to its late proprietor between 50 and 60*l. Sterling per ann.* and was sold at *Edinburgh*, in the year 1766, for the sum of 10,200*l. Scots*, or about 850*l. Sterling*, to *James Stuart of Burgh, Esq.*

The first of these islands, called the *Mainland*, is 60 miles long, and, in some places, 16 broad: it runs into the sea with abundance of promontories. It is best inhabited, and cultivated, on the shore; but the inner part is mountainous, and full of lakes or bogs, which makes travelling there dangerous to strangers. The air is cool and piercing; yet many of the inhabitants live to a great age. About the summer solstice they have so much light all night, that they can see to read by it. The sun sets between 10 and 11 at night, and rises between 1 and 2 in the morning; and, on the other hand, they day is so much shorter, and the night longer, in the winter; which, with the violence of the tides, and the tempestuousness of the seas, deprives them of all foreign correspondence from *October* to *April*, during which time they hear nothing of what passes in other parts of the world. A known instance of this was, that though the Revolution happened to begin in *November*, they knew nothing of it till the *May* following, when a fisherman, who arrived there, told them of it; and then they imprisoned him, in order to try him for spreading such news.

They are much subject to the scurvy, by eating too much fish; but nature has furnished them with

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great quantities of scurvy-grass for an antidote. They have little corn of their own growth, and therefore import great quantities from *Orkney*. Their common drink is whey, which they barrel up, and keep in cold cellars; this makes it very strong, so that it quickly turns their heads. Some of them keep for their drink butter-milk mixed with water, and this they call *Bland*. The better sort have good beer and ale, of which they are very liberal to strangers. They have abundance of fish of all sorts on their coasts for most part of the year: those that abound most are cod, ling, and herring. They have also shell-fish of all sorts, with whales, seals, sea-calves, and otters; and in the winter-time they burn oil of fish instead of candle. They abound with all sorts of fowl, except heath-cocks; and other fowls, which frequent heaths, will not live there, when brought thither, though they have abundance of heath. They have store of geese, and many sorts of ducks. They have plenty of little horses, which they call *schelties*, very fit for the husbandman's use, and pace naturally. They make coarse cloths, stockings, and knit gloves, for their own use, and also for sale to the *Norwegians*. Their grain is oats and big, but most of the latter. They have abundance of black cattle and sheep. Their ewes are very prolific, and for the most part bring forth two, and sometimes three lambs at once. Their fuel is turf, peat, and heath. Their chief trade of export consists in fish, by the produce of which they pay their rent, and purchase necessaries. Their native language is old *Gothic*, or *German*, as was also that of *Orkney*; but they generally now speak *English*. In their customs and habit they much resemble the *Germans*; but the better sort imitate the *Scots Lowlanders*. Their religion is Protestant, and they are generally, as well as the *Orkney-men*, very devout. There were few or no Presbyterians in these parts before the year 1700, when

when new missionaries came, and ejected the old clergy; yet the people did not care to hear them, so long as they had any body else. They make use of no physicians; and if at any time they receive wounds, they cure themselves. There are two little towns in this island; the first and oldest is *Scalloway*, on the west-side of the island, where there is a castle four stories high. The inhabitants are about 100 in number. The second and largest is *Lerwick*, which, by their fishing-trade, is increased now to about 300 families.

There are several ancient monuments in these islands, and particularly those called *Piet's houses*.

The *Dutch*, *Hamburgers*, &c. come hither to fish in *June*, and go away again in *August* and *September*; and sometimes there are 2000 busses fishing in *Brassa's* found at once.

The most remarkable of the other islands here, are *Zeal*, commonly called *Yell*, which is said to be 20 miles long, and 8 broad. It is very mountainous, and full of moss; but there are pretty considerable pastures, in which they feed a great many sheep, and it also affords plenty of peat. It seems to have been populous in ancient times, since there are in it three churches, twenty chapels, and many *Pietish* sorts.

Farther north lies *Vuist*, much of the same dimensions, plain, pleasant to the eye, fruitful and well inhabited. It is the pleasantest of the *Shetland* isles, has three churches, and as many harbours.

*Tronda* lies over-against *Scalloway*; and is three miles long, and two broad.

A little north-east lies *Walsay*, three miles long, and as many broad.

On the east of *Brassa's* found lies *Great Rule*, eight miles long, and two broad: it has a good harbour.

Six leagues west from the *Mainland* lies *Foula*. It is about three miles long, narrow, and full of rough steep.

steep, and barren rocks, one of which is so large, and runs up to so great a height, as to be clearly seen from the *Orkneys*. It has scarce any pasturage, and very little arable land; but, though small in size, is however very fertile, out of the produce of which, with fowl and fish, the poor inhabitants subsist. They have nothing that can be called a port, and the only commodities they have are stock-fish, train-oil, and feathers.

More to the east lies *Brassa*, five miles long, and two broad; it has some arable ground, and two churches.

*Burray* is three miles long, has good pasturage, abounds with fish on the coast, and has a church in it. No mice will live here; and it is said, they will forsake the place, wherever the earth of it is brought.

*Shetland* is divided into 12 parishes; but there are many more churches and chapels in it. This country, like *Orkney*, has no wood in it; but they have some fish and fowl peculiar to themselves. The inhabitants are very bold in venturing to sea at all seasons for fish, and in climbing the rocks for fowl.

The chief families in *Orkney* and *Shetland* are the *Bruces*, *Sinclairs*, *Mouats*, *Nivets*, *Chyneys*, *Stuarts*, *Grabams*, *Moodies*, *Douglasses*, *Honeymans*, *Trails*, *Barkies*, *Southerlands*, *Craigies*, *Youngs*, *Buchanans*, &c. But the most ancient, and, I may say, original, are the *Fletts*, *Hackrews*, *Richens*, *Feas*, *Skolas*, *Grottes*, &c.

In the mouth of the river *Forth* lie several islands, the most considerable of which is the *May*: it was formerly dedicated to *St. Adrian*, who was martyred there by the *Danes*, and afterwards a religious place was built in memory of him. This island is a mile long from north to south, and about a quarter of a mile broad: it lies seven miles from the coast of *Fife*, has a fresh-water spring, and a small lake. No corn grows

grows here; but in the summer it affords pasturage for 100 sheep, and 20 black cattle. The west-side is inaccessible, because of high rocks; but the east-side is plain, and has four places, where boats may arrive, one of them a safe harbour for ships during a strong west wind. Fish of all sorts are numerous on the coast of this island; and it abounds with fowl, particularly those called skarts, dunters, gulls, scouts, and kittawaax; the latter is about the size of a dove, and in *July* is preferred to a partridge. The scouts are somewhat less than a duck, but their eggs are larger than those of a goose, and, being boiled hard, eat very well with vinegar and parsley. This island of *May* formerly belonged to the priory of *Pittenweem*, but was granted in fee by king *Charles I.* to *Cunningham* of *Barns*, with liberty to build a light-house there for the benefit of ships; for the maintainance of which they were to allow 2*d.* per ton. A tower of 40 feet high is built there for that end, with a fire every night; and the first builder was cast away in returning from thence to his house in *Fife*, by a tempest which some poor old women were executed for raising.

Higher up in the *Firth* lies *Inchkeith*, betwixt *Fife* and *Lothian*, a mile and a half long, and about half a mile broad; the soil is fat, and produces good grass, and abundance of physical herbs. It has four fresh-water springs, and has many harbours, one towards each quarter. It rises in the middle, and has a strong stone fort raised upon it by queen *Mary*. There is a stone quarry here, which sends forth a strong sulphureous smell, when any pieces are broken off, but very fit for building. There are great shoals of fish round the coasts of this island, and abundance of oysters during the winter. This island had its name from the noble family of *Keith*, whose founder had this island, with the barony of *Keith-mareschal* in *Lothian*, and the hereditary dignity of earl *Marshal* in  
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*Scotland*, conferred upon him by king *Malcolm II.* in the year 1010, for his valour in the battle against the *Danes* at *Bar* in *Angus*. It came afterwards to the crown, and was given by king *Robert II.* to *John* lord *Lyn* of *Glames*, the chief of that family, with the barony of *Kinghorn*, upon his marrying that prince's daughter. It is since in other hands. It is observed, that here horses grow fat in a little time.

Higher up, within two miles of *Aberdour*, lies an island called *St. Colm's-Inch*, as being dedicated to *St. Columba*: it had formerly a famous abbey, with large endowments; but it is now ruined; and, upon the alienation of abbey-lands, was given to the lord *Downs*, a branch of the family of *Stuart*.

Higher up lies *Incharvy*, or *Inchgary*, between two promontories, near the *Queen's-ferry*; it was also fortified, and the guns of the forts could reach the shore on both sides, so that no ships could safely pass it without leave.

On the top of a high rocky hill, at the west-end of the islands of *Orkney*, near the village of *Skeal*, there is a sort of pavement, consisting of stones variously figured, some like a heart, others like a crown, a leg, a weaver's shuttle, &c. It takes up above a quarter of a mile in length, and from 20 to 30 feet in breadth. In removing any of these stones, the figure is as neat on the under-side, as the upper; and being as big as the life, all of one colour, of a reddish kind of stone, pitched in a reddish earth, and the pavement so very long, it cannot be any of the tessellated or chequered works of the *Romans*. Part of a garden-wall is decorated with these stones, and many of them are taken away by the neighbouring gentry, to set them up like *Dutch-tiles* in their chimnies; so that, at this rate, in less than a century, this pavement will, in all likelihood, subsist only in books.

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As the herring-fishery on the coast of *Shetland* still is, and has long been, the distinguishing glory of these isles, I shall give as clear, but at the same time as concise an account of it as possible, notwithstanding we have already touched upon this subject in the beginning of the volume \*. The herring is a fish that has been distinguished by many honourable epithets, on account of the immense profits derived therefrom in commerce. It has the testimony of eminent physicians in its favour, as to wholesomeness, when cured in its proper season; and it is universally allowed, that the best herrings in the world are caught upon the *Shetland* coasts. I have no room to enter into conjectures or philosophical reasons, and shall therefore confine what is here advanced strictly to facts. The first of these is, that about the beginning of the year, the herrings, like the mackrel, plaice, and other fish of passage, issue from the remote recesses of the North, in a body surpassing description, and almost exceeding the power of imagination.

The first column detached, moves towards the west by the coasts of *Newfoundland* in *North America*; the eastern column, proceeding leisurely by the coast of *Ireland*, sends off one division along the coasts of *Norway*, which soon divides into two, one passing by the strait of the *Sound* into the *Baltic*, the other towards *Holland*, *Bremen*, &c. The larger and deeper column falls directly upon the isles of *Shetland* and *Orkney*; and, passing these, divide into two, the eastern column moving along that whole side of *Britain*, detaching gradually smaller shoals to the coast of *Friezland*, *Holland*, *Zealand*, *Flanders*, and *France*, while the western column passes on the other side of *Britain* and *Ireland*. The remains of this body resemble in the channel, and proceeding thence into

\* See this matter more fully discussed in *Mr. Campbell's Survey of Great Britain*, Vol. I. p. 692, &c.

the ocean, retire to their asylum in the North, where in peace and safety they repair the losses they have sustained, and being grown large and lusty, break out again at the next season, to make the same tour which has been already described.

It would be a very difficult, and, in respect to my purpose, an almost useless undertaking, to endeavour at fixing the time when this fishery commenced. It is certain, that at the beginning of the fourteenth century, it was considered as a matter of great importance in this as well as in other nations. But *William Buckold*, who, as some affirm, published this invention, (or who, as others say, died) at *Bieroliet* in 1386, (to whose tomb, it is asserted, *Charles* the fifth, and his sister the queen of *Hungary*, made a visit, in acknowledgment of the services he had done the *Low Countries*) invented a new method of curing these fish, by which his countrymen, the *Flemings*, engrossed this lucrative commerce, and to distinguish them, these were called *Flemish* herrings. Others say, this invention was taught them by an *Englishman*, one *William Belkinson*, much later; but however that matter be, certain it is, that the *Flemings* were exceedingly enriched by it, till by the revolt of the *United Provinces*, this fishery fell into the hands of the *Dutch*, who, by making many prudent ordinances, in reference to the catching, curing, and exporting herrings, fixed this trade in their own hands, and excited thereby the wonder, envy, and jealousy of all their neighbours.

There is, however, very little doubt to be made, that the profits accruing to the *Dutch* from this fishery, have been at certain times, though probably without any bad intention, magnified much beyond the truth. We will therefore, in order to come at something like a calculation, lay down certain facts from the best authorities, which may serve to shew the progressive state



state of the fishery, at the same time that it furnishes the means of guessing, with some degree of probability, at its vast value.

Sir William Monson, Sir Walter Raleigh, and other writers of those days, men of experience, proper judges, and who had seen what they advanced as facts, assure us, that the *Dutch* employed in their times, and had long employed, two thousand busses in the *Shetland* fishery. In 1633, Mr. Smith, who was sent to *Shetland* by the earl of *Pembroke* to look strictly into this affair, and to report the then state of the *Dutch* fishing, fixes the number of busses, when he was there, at 1500, and the vessels that were there besides employed in the cod-fishery at 400.

It appears from very exact researches made after the Restoration, and by different modes of calculation which checked each other, that it was then to the full as considerable. But the subsequent wars with *England* and *France* bringing great losses on the subjects of the *States General*, who had embarked their fortunes in this fishery, other nations beginning to interfere with them, and from a variety of causes, which it would be tedious here to mention, this trade gradually declined; so that in 1762, the *Dutch* had no more than 200 busses here; the *British Herring Fishery* a very few ships, (which, however, caught more in proportion, and cured them to the full as well as the *Dutch*); the *Swedes* had also some busses, and there were some likewise from *Ostend*: from all of which, whatever they might do in former times, the natives drew but very little advantage. Though it is contrary to the orders from *Holland*, yet the natives frequently complain of ill usage from the *Dutch* busses, by insulting, and sometimes spoiling their small boats, more especially when they attempt fishing in deep waters. However, in regard to the subjects of that republic, the herring-fishery may be at present decayed,

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it would be no difficult thing to prove, to the satisfaction of the candid as well as critical enquirer, that while it continued to flourish in their hands, the *Dutch* drew from their fishery out of the ocean washing the coasts of these islands, to the amount of *two hundred millions Sterling*.—A circumstance that may surely, in some degree, entitle the *Shetland* islands to the notice of *Great Britain*.

It is pretty evident, that if *Britain* had been as attentive to her interest as the *Dutch*, she might have drawn from the possession of the *Shetland* isles no small share of wealth to herself; in consequence of which, the inhabitants must have been in a much better state than they now are. The business now is to look forward, and to consider past mistakes as proper admonitions; and there is no doubt, that they may still be made profitable by proper means, and a constant attention. A great part of the lands, at least a considerable proportion of them, that now, and perhaps without encouragement for ever may, continue useless, might be brought into cultivation, if distributed among industrious families, at very easy, and till in some degree improved, at no rents. This would give such as were settled on them a property, instil thereby a deep-rooted affection and strong attachment to their country, and furnish a part of their subsistence.

To facilitate their fishery, which must ever furnish the rest, magazines should be erected to supply them with all things requisite for that employment, without respect of persons, at equal, and at the lowest rates; and means must be likewise found to enable them gradually to procure larger boats, busses, and other vessels, so as to put it in their power to catch, cure, and export their herrings and other fish in their own bottoms, towards which nothing would contribute more than to send a frigate annually to protect them

them from the encroachments and insults of foreigners.

The smaller islands should be also improved, by erecting salt works in some, by establishing the manufacture of nets in others, by supplying the necessary materials and conveniences for building stout boats and making casks in the larger islands. Kelp might certainly be made even on the holms and skerries; and having that and train-oil, would lead them to the making coarse glass and soap, which would vary and encrease their cargoes. Two or three companies of invalids, properly chosen and employed as garrisons would prove an easy and effectual method to teach the natives many little manual arts, and a variety of useful trades, of which they are at present ignorant, and by which industry would spread, in consequence of its being apparently, certainly, and speedily rewarded.

As the people come to live better, and to bring home cargoes in return for their fish and other commodities, customs and excise would quickly repay the public for the encouragements proposed; and, if this was not sufficient, they might be obliged to furnish a certain supply of seamen to the royal navy in time of war, which they would be very far from considering as a hardship.

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## L E T T E R VI.

*Containing a brief Account of the Rise, Progress, and Extinction of the Rebellion raised in SCOTLAND in the Year 1745.*

I SHALL now proceed to give a brief account of the rise, progress, and suppression, of the rebellion of 1745, which I have reserved for a distinct article, rather than give it in detached pieces in different parts of this volume.

In the summer of the year 1745, it was discovered, that some preparations were privately making for an expedition into *Scotland*; and a principal officer in the *French* navy raised a company of 100 men, under pretence of the *East-India* Company's service, which were stiled *Graffins de Mer*, and were handsomely clothed in blue, faced with red. They were put on board a frigate carrying 18 guns; and, every thing being ready, the eldest son of the Pretender, who had been for some time before in *France*, came privately to *Port Lazare*, in *Britany*, where, on the 14th of *July*, he embarked with about 50 *Scots* and *Irish*, in order to land in the south-west of *Scotland*.

This frigate was joined off *Belleisle* by the *Elizabeth*, a man of war of 66 guns, which had been taken from us by the *French*, and was now extremely well manned for this service. In their passage she fell in with a fleet of *English* merchantmen under convoy of three men of war, one of which, viz. the *Lion*, commanded by the gallant captain *Brett*, engaged the *Elizabeth* for nine hours; but soon after the engagement began, the frigate bore away, and continued her intended voyage.

voyage. The *Elizabeth*, when night came on, made a shift to get away, and returned to *Brest* quite disabled, having her captain and 64 men killed, and 130 dangerously wounded. She had on board a large sum of money, and arms for several thousand men.

The frigate cruised for some days between the islands of *Bara* and *Uist*, and at last stood in for the coast of *Lochaber*, and there landed, betwixt the islands of *Muil* and *Skie*, the young Chevalier, and his attendants. He went first to the house of Mr. *Macdonald* of *Kenloch-Moidart*, where he remained for some time before he was in any condition to shew himself in public; but, about the middle of *August*, being joined by the *Camerons* of *Lochiel*, the *Macdonalds* of *Glengary*, the *Stuarts* of *Appin*, and others of the clans, to the number of between 1500 and 2000 men, he resolved to set up his standard. This was accordingly done, and the motto he made choice of was *Tandem Triumphans*, that is, *At length Triumphant*.

About the middle of *August* he appeared with his forces in the neighbourhood of *Fort William*, and about this time published several of his father's manifestoes; among which was one dated in 1743, which plainly shewed that an invasion was then intended; another in 1745, declaring his son regent; and a third containing large promises to the people of *Scotland*. Soon after, two companies of *St. Clair's* regiment fell in with the rebels, whom they were sent to reconnoitre, and were most of them taken prisoners, as captain *Sweatnam* of *Guise's* regiment was presently after; but he was released upon his parole; and it was from this gentleman that the first distinct accounts were obtained of the force, disposition, and design of the rebels, who began then to think themselves strong enough to march southward.

Lieutenant-general Sir *John Cope*, commander in chief of the king's forces in *Scotland*, drew together

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the troops then in that kingdom, armed the militia, and took such other precautions as he thought requisite: and at length judged it expedient to march northward, in order to find out the enemy, supposing that they would either wait for him at the *Chain*, which is the name usually given to the great road cross the island from *Inverness* to *Fort William*, or endeavour to meet and fight him in his passage; but they did neither: for while the general made a long and fatiguing march to *Inverness*, the rebels gave him the slip, and, instead of marching through the pass of *Corryversick*, they took the way over the mountains, seized *Perth*, on the 4th of *September*, and on the 5th proclaimed the Pretender there; the person called the duke of *Perth*, the late marquis of *Tullibardin* styling himself duke of *Atbal*, lord *George Murray* his brother, and several others, joining and declaring for him; by which their numbers so much encreased, that on the 11th they began their march towards the *Forth*; which river they forded at the *Frews* on the 13th, and summoned *Glasgow*; but receiving no answer, on the 14th they directed their march eastward towards *Edinburgh*.

Mean time Sir *John Cope* reached *Inverness*, from whence he dispatched orders for transports to be sent him to *Aberdeen*, in order to bring his forces back by sea to the port of *Leith*; and with this view he marched with all possible expedition from *Inverness* to *Aberdeen*, where he embarked his men; and, on the 16th of *September*, entered the harbour of *Dunbar*, where the next day the men landed, and on the 18th, the artillery. They were scarce well ashore, before they had advice of the city of *Edinburgh* being in the hands of the rebels, with whom the lord provost and some other magistrates had a kind of treaty on the 16th in the evening; and, terms being settled, the rebels entered the place the next morning about five o'clock. General *Guest* had retired into the castle, with a small

number of regular troops; the Bank, and most of the public offices having been removed into that fortress before. Brigadier *Fowke*, with *Gardiner's* and *Hamilton's* dragoons, having joined Sir *John Cope's* army, they, on the 19th, marched from *Dunbar*, and encamped at night on the west-side of *Haddington*; the next morning early they continued their march, and in the evening reached *Preston-Pans*, the *Highlanders* appearing on the high grounds to the south of them.

Some firing passed during the night. Sept. 21st in the morning, about three o'clock, they attacked the king's troops; and the dragoons breaking on the first fire, left the foot exposed to the *Highlanders*, by whom, after a short dispute, they were defeated, a considerable number killed, and the best part of the rest made prisoners, the few field-pieces they had with them being likewise taken. This is by some called the battle of *Preston-Pans*, by others the battle of *Seaton*, from two little towns near which it was fought.

The rebels, on the 28th, sent out parties to *Haddington* and *Dunbar*, and their prisoners to *Perth*; and, on the 29th, began to take their measures for cutting off all communication between the castle of *Edinburgh* and the town; which, considering that they wanted heavy artillery, and indeed all other requisites for a siege, was a very needless and wild attempt.

On the first of *October*, they opened their trenches on the *Castle hill*, a little below the reservoir; upon which the castle fired upon them, killing three men and wounding a commanding officer; so that by four in the afternoon they abandoned their works.—The city of *Glasgow* being summoned a second time, and 15,000*l.* being demanded by way of contribution, they were constrained to compound the matter for 5000 guineas, which were immediately paid. Hostilities continued between the garrison of the castle of *Edinburgh*



burgh, and the rebels, till the 5th in the evening: when, several houses being beat down by the artillery, and the rebels having lost 20 men in an attempt to drive part of the garrison from the *Castle-hill*, the communication between the town and castle was restored, and hostilities ceased.

On the 7th, the rebels demanded half a crown in the pound from the landlords of houses in *Edinburgh*, under pain of military execution. About the middle of this month, they were joined by considerable reinforcements under the command of several persons of distinction, particularly old *Gordon of Glenbucket*, *Forbes*, lord *Pitligo*, the earl of *Kilmarnock*, and others. They likewise received from abroad considerable supplies of ammunition, military stores, small arms, and some field-pieces. There was also one Mr. *Boyer*, or, as he styled himself, marquis *De Guilles*, came over in one of these vessels from *France*, as an agent, whom they dignified with the title of ambassador. Towards the latter end of the month, a great part of their army marched to *Dalkeith*, to which place they removed their field-pieces and ammunition; and, having erected a battery at *Alloway*, to secure the passage of the *Firth*, they transported, from *Montrose*, *Stone-hive*, and other places, the supplies they had received from abroad, and made other dispositions to march southward.

Mean time field marshal *Wade*, commander in chief of the army intended for the north, began to move that way with his forces; consisting of some *English* regiments, both horse and foot, together with the *Dutch* auxiliaries, and a train of field artillery, while a body of *British* troops, under the command of the earl of *Albemarle*, landed at *Newcastle*. The *Tryal* ship likewise brought into *Bristol*, a *Spanish* ship, on board of which were 2500 fusils with bayonets, and 100 barrels of gunpowder, seven chests of money, &c. designed for the service of the rebels. By this

time likewise the militia in the northern counties were raised, and associations and voluntary contributions set on foot in most parts of the kingdom.

In the county of *York* particularly, through the timely vigilance and zeal of the archbishop (*Dr. Thomas Herring*) assisted by the nobility and gentry, four new regiments were raised, clothed, and disciplined, at the expence of the county. There was likewise a considerable body of gentlemen volunteers on horseback, stiled the royal hunters, who served at their own expence, put in motion under the command of major-general *Oglethorpe*. In *Scotland*, the lord president of the Court of Session, *Duncan Forbes*, Esq. distinguished himself by his zeal and activity, in distributing commissions for raising several independent companies in the North; which were to be put under the command of the earl of *Loudon*; so that by the end of the month there was an army of 14,000 men formed in the north of *England*, and a very considerable body raised in the North of *Scotland*, for the security of *Inverness*, *Fort William*, and other garrisons there: which military preparations, joined to the loyal spirit which shewed itself in all parts of the nation, and more particularly at *London*, very probably disappointed the designs of the disaffected, hindered many from joining the rebels, and even drew off some who had gone to *Edinburgh* with that resolution.

On the 1st of *November* the young Chevalier came to the camp at *Dalkeith*, and there fixed his headquarters, as lying very conveniently, either for sending spies, or detachments, to see what was doing in the North of *England*. He had, however, but cool encouragement, some refusing to read his letters, and several of his emissaries being seized at *Newcastle*, *Berwick*, and other places. He detached two advanced corps from thence, one of which marched towards *Pennycook*, and the other to *Loanhead*, both places be-

## THE REBELLION. 341

being in the way to *Peebles* and *Carlisle* : these detachments escorted their baggage and ammunition ; and on the 5th their force began their march southwards in three columns.

At this time the duke of *Perth* (as he styled himself) had the title of general ; lord *George Murray* had the post of lieutenant-general ; lord *Elcho*, who was eldest son to the then earl of *Wemyss*, commanded those that were about the person of the young Pretender, and were styled his life-guards ; the earl of *Kilmarnock* acted as colonel of hussars ; and lord *Pitligo* had the command of the *Angus* horse.

But though, in regard to their interests, those people were honoured with those commands, it was known, that the Pretender confided entirely in a few persons, most of whom came over with him. At the head of his councils was Sir *Thomas Sheridan*, who had been long about him, an *Irish* gentleman, of a middle age, and reputed a man of capacity ; colonel *Sullivan*, who had been a little while in the *French* service, and was somewhat of an engineer ; general *Macdonald*, an *Irish* officer who was his aid de camp : Mr. *Kelly*, who was so long in the *Tower* on the affair of *Atterbury*, bishop of *Rocheſter* ; and Mr. *Murray* of *Broughton*, who acted all along as his secretary. The number of men that the young Pretender had with him at this juncture seems to have been about 7000 ; some of whom, when they considered the dangers to which they were exposed, deserted. But, notwithstanding this and other disappointments, the rebel chiefs, continuing firm in their first resolution, began to pass the *Tweed* on the 6th, and the same day their advanced guards entered *England*.

Marshal *Wade*, who was by this time arrived at *Newcastle*, had formed the king's army there, and would have marched to fight the rebels, if he had not found it necessary to be first informed, whether they really intended

tended to invade *England*, and which route they meant to take, that of *Newcastle* or *Carlisle*. He caused likewise a declaration to be published, promising pardon to such of the *Highlanders*, as returned to their duty by the 12th of *November*; and took such precautions for the security of the adjacent country, as obliged the rebels, who were too far advanced to think of retiring into *Scotland*, to throw themselves into the western road, to which their people in general, and most of their chiefs seemed at first to be least inclined.

The rigour of the season, their late forced marches, and a kind of flux among the foldiers, retarded the operations of the king's troops for some time; but good quarters, proper refreshments, and the extraordinary care of their officers, soon overcame those difficulties, and put the army into so good a condition, as enabled them to go through the winter campaign with fewer inconveniences, and much less loss, than could have been reasonably expected, considering the great hardships, and excessive fatigues to which those corps particularly that had served all the summer in *Flanders* had been exposed.

On the 7th of *November* the rebel army advanced to *Halyhaugh*, and from thence sent out parties to scour the adjacent country. On the 8th, they came to *Langton*; and on the 9th they appeared on a moor two miles from the city of *Carlisle*. This place was formerly very strong, and considered as a bulwark against the *Scots*. The best part of its old walls were standing; and the castle, though an ancient irregular fortress, had such remains of strength, that, in the opinion of colonel *Durand*, who commanded there, it was tenable against a better army than that of the rebels. In point of force there was the whole militia of the two counties of *Cumberland* and *Westmorland*, and some invalids in the castle; so that, when the young Pretender summoned them, they absolutely re-

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## THE REBELLION. 343

refused to give up the place; upon which the rebels filed off towards *Brampton*, where they spent some time in consulting what was to be done.

It is said, that the officers were inclined to march on; but the men shewing a desire to return to *Carlisle*, it was not judged adviseable by their superiors to cross their inclinations: and therefore, after cutting a great deal of wood for fascines and scaling-ladders, in *Corby* and *Warwick* parks, they, on the 13th, began to move back towards *Carlisle*. The place, in all probability, might even then have made a defence; but the threats of the rebels had such an effect, that the white flag was hung out, and the town capitulated on the 15th, and the castle too was given up; but the governor took care to withdraw, as disliking the terms, and persisted in his first opinion, that the place might have been defended. Thus this city fell into the hands of the rebels, who immediately caused the Pretender to be proclaimed, and put a garrison into the castle, under the command of the duke of *Perth*.

As soon as marshal *Wade* had intelligence at *Newcastle* of the route which the rebels had taken, he resolved, notwithstanding the severity of the season, to march from thence to the relief of *Carlisle*; and accordingly on the 16th, the army began to move for that purpose. His excellency intended to have begun his march, as soon as it was light; but moving from the left, the *Swiss* troops had the van, which delayed their motions several hours, to the great prejudice of the expedition; for the weather being excessively cold, attended with a deep snow and a hard frost, the troops suffered very much. The major-generals *Howard* and *Oglethorpe*, and the brigadiers *Cholmondeley* and *Mordaunt*, marched on foot at the head of the infantry to encourage the soldiers. It was eight at night, and very dark, before the front got into the camp at *Ovington*; and though the soldiers marched with

great cheerfulness, yet, the roads being terribly broken, and full of ice, it was foreseen, that many of the last column might drop through excessive fatigue; and therefore the major-generals *Huske* and *Oglethorpe* sent out countrymen with lights and carts, to assist the rear-guard, and bring up the tired men; in which service they were employed till near nine the next morning.

On the 17th, the marshal continued his march to *Hexham*, where he arrived with the first line about four in the afternoon; but the rear of the army did come up till near midnight. His excellency having intelligence that *Carlisle* had surrendered, resolved to march back to *Newcastle*; but the weather continuing bad, and the roads being become in a manner impassable, he did not arrive there with the army, till the 22d; and even then the forces under his command were so excessively fatigued, that, if it had not been for the great care taken of them by the people of *Newcastle*, who shewed the utmost zeal and affection in providing them quarters, they must have been in a great measure ruined by this fatiguing march.

This invasion of the rebels having thrown all the northern and north-western parts of the kingdom into great confusion, directions were given for forming another army in *Lancashire*. The city of *Chester* was also put into a condition of defence, in a surprizing short space of time, by the care and diligence of the earl of *Cholmondeley*. At *Liverpool* likewise, all necessary precautions were taken, and the inhabitants of that town shewed all the spirit and resolution that could be desired.

The rebels did not continue long at *Carlisle*; for on the 19th the young Pretender made his entry into that city, and on the 20th his forces continued their march to *Penrith*, from whence they advanced, on the 22d, to *Kendal*; moved from thence to *Lancaster*

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## THE REBELLION. 345

on the 24th; and on the 27th reached *Preston*. They were at *Wigan* and *Leigh* on the 28th; and in the afternoon of the same day an advanced party entered *Manchester*, where they began to beat up for volunteers, but with much less success than they expected, though some few people joined them; and they had likewise picked up some persons of desperate fortune in their march; but, however, nobody of any rank or distinction came in, which, without doubt, was a great disappointment; for they had flattered themselves with the hopes of a considerable insurrection in their favour.

On the 29th, the main body of their army moved towards *Manchester*, and about ten in the morning their horse entered the town. About two in the afternoon the young Pretender, at the head of a considerable body of picked *Highlanders*, and in their dress, marched into *Manchester*, and was proclaimed. At night the rear of their army arrived; but though they had demanded quarters for 10,000 men, it was judged they never had in *Manchester* above half that number.

On the 30th of *October*, a part of the rebel army marched for *Stockport*, and the rest for *Knutsford*: they carried off all the horses they could meet with in the neighbourhood of *Manchester*; at night several parties crossed the river *Mersey* at different places, over bridges made of trees and planks laid across, in framing of which, they compelled the country-people to assist them. It is very remarkable, that in their whole progress no discoveries could be made of the routes they intended to take, because they were never given out above an hour before their march began; and neither officers nor soldiers knew over night, whither they were to go, or what service they were to perform, the next morning: which secrecy, in all probability, preserved



served them from destruction; since, however formidable they might be at a distance, those who saw them at *Manchester*, and other places, were very far from thinking they made a dreadful appearance.

In the mean time the duke of *Cumberland's* army was forming in *Staffordshire*: for, upon the approach of the rebels, it was resolved, that his royal highness should be sent down to command the forces in that part of the kingdom; and accordingly he arrived at *Litchfield* on the 28th of *November*; that army being supposed to consist of upwards of 12,000 men, well furnished with artillery, and making a fine appearance.

The army under the command of field-marshal *Wade* began to move towards the latter end of the month, the cavalry having reached *Darlington* and *Richmond* by the 25th; and on the 29th, marshal *Wade*, with the infantry, was at *Persbridge*; from whence he proposed to march to *Wetherby*, and to canton the whole army in the adjacent villages; looking upon this as the most convenient situation, either for distressing the enemy, in case they should attempt to retire, or for co-operating with his royal highness's forces, as occasion should require. By these well concerted dispositions, all apprehensions of danger were in a great measure taken off, and the country people began every where to recover their spirits, and to put themselves in the best posture of defence they could, for fear of being visited by these *Highland* invaders. Such was the situation of things at the close of *November*; and we now return to the progress of the rebels so long as they continued to persist in their wild design of advancing into *South Britain*.

On the first of *December*, the young Chevalier, with the main body of his army, and all his artillery, entered *Macclesfield*; and at this time the greatest part of the rebels really expected an engagement, as appeared by

by their scaling, firing, and putting in order their pieces all the afternoon and evening of that day. But what were the true intentions of the Chevalier, and his councils of war, it is impossible to say, since at first it was believed, they intended to march into *Wales*; but perceiving that, if they should accomplish that scheme, they should certainly be shut up there, and reduced to great necessities in a mountainous country, with which they were not acquainted, they abandoned this project as impracticable. On the 2d, about 2000 of their foot passed by *Gowsworth*, and about the like number of horse and foot entered *Congleton*; and the next day, these two great bodies of their forces advanced, one of them to *Luck*, and the other at *Asburn*, within 15 miles of *Derby*.

On the 4th in the morning, the Pretender's son entered *Derby* with near 5000 horse, and about 2000 foot; and in the evening the rest of their forces, their artillery, and baggage, arrived there likewise; but with all the precaution possible, to hinder any exact account from being taken of their numbers; which was a point they laboured with the utmost diligence during their whole march. On their first coming into *Derby* it was judged, both from the measures they took, and from the behaviour of their chiefs, that they were still disposed to march on. In the evening, however, they held several councils of war, in which the disputes among their chiefs rose so high, that they could not be concealed; yet they agreed upon nothing that night, except levying the public money, which they did with unusual circumstances of terror and violence. The next day they continued at *Derby*, and about noon in a council held, in the presence of the young Pretender, a final resolution was taken of returning back into *Scotland*.

It was observed by the people of the houses, where their principal commanders quartered, that, upon the

rising of this last council, their chiefs looked very dejected; and that some of them railed at the *French* and *Irish* about the young Pretender, and others made no scruple of saying they were betrayed. This is certain, that, whatever was the matter, they were thenceforward always diffident of each other; and that the Pretender himself was afterwards not much considered, and but indifferently obeyed.

The duke of *Cumberland*, at the head of the king's forces, took all imaginable pains to force the rebels to a decisive engagement; and (when that was found impossible) to hinder their march into *North Wales*, or to alarm the nation by continuing their incursion, and advancing farther into the heart of the kingdom. In order to effect the former of these purposes, his royal highness advanced to *Stone*, upon the first advice of the rebels being at *Congleton*; but when it appeared, that their true design was to march to *Derby*, the king's forces moved towards *Northampton*, to intercept them in their route southwards; and having been informed, that the rebels had possessed themselves of *Swarkston* bridge, his royal highness encamped on the 6th with the greatest part of the forces on *Meriden Common*, between *Coleshill* and *Coventry*.

In the mean time marshal *Wade* had marched the army under his command to *Wetherby*, where he encamped on the 5th; and the same day orders were given for the horse and dragoons to proceed to *Doncaster*, whither the foot were to follow them. These dispositions afforded sufficient reason for the rebels to retreat, since whoever considers them attentively, will find, that, in the first place, it would have been very difficult for them to have proceeded farther, without meeting with, and being obliged to fight, the duke's army, which was what they never designed; and, on the other hand, if they had succeeded in their scheme, and by some means or other continued

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nued their march, without coming to a battle, it must have ended in their absolute ruin, since a delay of two or three days would have rendered their retreat northward altogether impossible.

Before we proceed farther, it is requisite to observe, that the second son of the Pretender being arrived in *France*, there were about this time vast preparations made for the invasion of this kingdom; and though, by the timely and prudent precautions taken by the lords of the Admiralty, they were prevented, yet they occasioned a great deal of confusion, and proved, in that respect, of some service to the rebels; but, in another sense, they were of service to the nation, since they not only kept alive, but heightened, that spirit of zeal and loyalty, which had appeared from the breaking out of the rebellion, and of which all ranks and degrees of people gave at this time such lively testimonies, as were sufficient to convince even our enemies, that his late majesty reigned in the hearts and affections of his subjects, as well as over their persons.

Yet, in *North Britain*, the flame of rebellion began again to spread itself, by the assistance of the *French*; for lord *John Drummond* having landed with about 500 men at *Aberdeen*, *Peterhead*, and *Montrose*, he was very soon joined by that body which lord *Lewis Gordon* had been raising in the North, as well as by other of the disaffected clans, such as the *Mackenzies*, the *Mackintoshes*, the *Farquharsons*, and the *Frasers*, to the number of between 2 and 3000 men; with which forces he drew down towards *Perth*, about the time the young Pretender was at *Derby*. The earl of *Loudon*, who was at the head of a small body of men for the king's service in the North, spared no pains or diligence in exciting the well-affected clans to join him; and by the reinforcements he received from the *Macleods*, the *Grants*, the *Monroes*, the *Sutherlands*, and the *Guns*, he was soon 2000 strong. At *Edinburgh*

*burgh* likewise, and at *Glasgow*, they began to raise men for the service of the government, with great chearfulness and success; so that two good regiments were completed, besides several independent corps; as will be seen more at large, when we speak of the measures taken by the government in *North Britain*, to suppress the rebellion.

After the rebels had raised all the money they could on the town of *Derby*, they set about prosecuting their resolution of endeavouring to retire into *Scotland* by the same road they came; and accordingly marched, on the 6th of *December* 1745, to *Ashburn*, from whence they moved the next day to *Leek*, destroying, in their passage, whatever they judged might be of use to the king's forces that were in pursuit of them; and, shewing a warm spirit of resentment for the disappointments they had met with, thereby provoking the country-people to do them all the mischief they could. They carried with them a train of artillery, consisting of 15 small pieces of cannon, and one mortar.

On the 8th in the evening their vanguard reached *Manchester*; and the next morning the young Chevalier, and the main of his forces, came thither, where they were not received as they had been before; but, on the contrary, the town's people, or at least the mob, gave them some pretty visible marks of their dislike; which was instantly punished by an order or precept in the name of the Chevalier, and signed and sealed by Mr. *Murray* his secretary, directed to the constable and collector of the land-tax for the towns of *Manchester* and *Salford*, requiring them to collect and levy, by the next day at noon, the sum of 2500*l.* to be paid to the said Mr. *Murray*, with a promise of repayment, however, when the country should be peaceably settled under his government.

On the 10th, they continued their march by *Pendleton-Pole*, towards *Leigh* and *Wigan*, which last place they

they reached on the 11th, and pushed on from thence to *Preston* the next day; being extremely apprehensive of finding themselves surrounded in that neighbourhood. On the 13th in the morning, they quitted *Preston*, and continued their route to *Lancaster*; and, on the 14th, they moved from thence to *Kendal*, which they entered about ten in the morning, and where they met with a bad reception; for the town's people fired upon their hussars, killed one, and took two prisoners. Their vanguard continued their march from thence to *Shap* in their way to *Penrith*; but, seeing the beacons every where lighted, and being informed that it was done to raise the country, and that the people were disposed to fall upon them on all sides, they thought proper to return to *Kendal*, which they accordingly did about two in the morning.

On the 15th, the Pretender, with all his forces, arrived there, and began to march from thence for *Penrith* on the 16th, by break of day; lord *George Murray* commanding the rear-guard, as he had done during the whole march. They intended to have reached *Penrith* that night, but, finding it impracticable, they thought fit to halt at *Shap*, where we shall leave them for the present, that we may better give the reader an account of the motions of the king's forces, in order to overtake them.

His royal highness the duke of *Cumberland*, having certain intelligence, on the 7th of *December*, that the *Higblanders* had begun to move northward, put himself the next morning at the head of all the horse and dragoons, with 1000 volunteers, in order to follow the rebels from *Merriden*, and stop them till the foot came up. On the 9th, Sir *John Ligonier* marched with the brigade of guards, and the regiment of *Semphill*, to *Litchfield*, pursuant to his royal highness's instructions.

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On the 10th, the duke arrived at *Macclesfield* with two regiments of dragoons, having a body of 1000 foot at no great distance, from whence he sent orders to *Manchester*, and other parts of the country, that nothing might be neglected, that could contribute to retard or distress the enemy. On the 11th, major *Wheatley* was detached with an advanced party of dragoons to harraßs the rear of the rebels, and to join the light-armed troops that were expected from the other army.

Marshal *Wade* having received certain intelligence, of the proceedings of the rebels, and of the situation of his majesty's forces under the command of his royal highness, held, on the 8th of *December*, a great council of war at *Ferrybridge*, to consider of the most effectual means for cutting off the *Highlanders* in their retreat; and in this council of war it was resolved to march directly by *Wakefield* and *Hallifax* into *Lancashire*, as the most likely way of intercepting them. But, arriving at *Wakefield* on the 10th, and having advice that the main body of the rebels was at *Manchester*, and their vanguard moving from thence towards *Preston*, his excellency, finding that it was now impossible to come up with them, judged it unnecessary to fatigue the forces by hard marches; and therefore detaching major general *Oglethorpe*, on the 11th, with the cavalry under his command, he began his march with the rest of his forces, for *Newcastle*.

On the 13th, a great body of the horse and dragoons, that were, as has been said, under major-general *Oglethorpe*, arrived at *Preston*, having marched 100 miles in three days, over snow and ice; which was a noble testimony of zeal and spirit, especially in the new-raised forces. His royal highness arrived about one at the same place, and immediately gave his orders for continuing the pursuit of the rebels with the utmost diligence. On the 14th, accordingly, general  
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## THE REBELLION. 353

*Oglethorpe* advanced towards *Lancaster*, which place they reached on the 16th; general *Oglethorpe* continuing his pursuit at the heels of the rebels. On the 17th, the major-general was at *Shap*, and his royal highness entered *Kendal*, having now more hopes of coming up with the enemy, than at any time during the march; and the dispositions made by the duke for this purpose, were such, as shewed not only the greatest intrepidity, but also the utmost penetration, and military capacity.

On *Wednesday* the 18th of *December* in the evening, part of the cavalry, with his royal highness, came up with the rebels, after ten hours march, a little beyond *Lowther-hall*, which they had quitted on the approach of the king's forces, and threw themselves into the village of *Clifton*, about three miles from *Penrith*; where they had great advantages from the situation of the place, and from some decayed broken walls, which served them instead of retrenchments. His royal highness, however, caused the village to be immediately attacked, by the first force that came up, which were the king's own regiment of dragoons, and part of the duke of *Kingston's* horse, who behaved extremely well upon this occasion; and in an hour's time drove them out of the place, though a very strong and defensible post.

While their rear-guard was engaged with the king's forces at *Clifton*, the main body of the rebels were at *Penrith*, and so apprehensive of being overtaken, that at ten o'clock at night they ordered their artillery and baggage to advance towards *Carlisle*; and on the 19th in the morning, they entered that city, excessively fatigued, and in much confusion. The rebels did not continue long there, but contented themselves with putting a sort of garrison into the place, compose of between 4 and 500 men, most of them being those that had joined them in *England*, and  
which

which they had formed into a corps under the title of the *Manchester Regiment*.

The main body of their army continued their march towards *Scotland*, passing the river *Esk*, though very high, which cost many of them their lives: and on the 20th and 21st they again entered *North Britain*, leaving those they had thrown into *Carlisle* to shift for themselves as well as they could, and without any hopes of succour. These pretended, at first, that they would make an obstinate defence; and, having most of their artillery with them, they mounted them on the walls, took possession of the castle, and carried into it all the provisions they could find, leaving the inhabitants little or none to sustain themselves with; so that they were in the utmost distress, being able to draw no relief from the adjacent country, because the people were sensible, that whatever they sent them would be taken from them by the rebels. They did not, however, continue long in this deplorable condition, being relieved from it by the speedy arrival of the king's forces, who soon put an end to the dispute, and restored the people of *Carlisle* to the king's protection, the rebels in the castle being obliged to surrender at discretion; but not till cannon was brought up, and the necessary dispositions made for besieging them\*.

While the rebels were doing the business of the *French* in the North, vast preparations were still made on the coast of *France*, and *French Flanders*, for invading this kingdom; and the informations which the government received of their embarkation, particularly at *Dunkirk*, induced his majesty to give such directions as were necessary for appointing proper alarm-posts at which the troops were to assemble, and such

\* Those who visit *Carlisle* castle are always shewn a small spot of ground not far from the citadel, on which the duke of *Cumberland* erected a battery, and from thence made a breach in the walls, as well as in the castle itself.

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signals as were requisite for assembling them; and at the same time a proclamation was issued, commanding all officers, civil and military, to cause the coasts to be carefully watched, and, upon the first approach of the enemy, to direct all horses, oxen, cattle, and other provisions, to be driven and removed 20 miles from the place where the enemy should attempt to land; and such regiments of regular troops as were at this time quartered in and about *London*, were ordered down to the coasts of *Kent* and *Suffex*.

These wise and timely precautions, joined to the zeal and spirit shewn by the gentlemen, clergy, and other inhabitants of the maritime counties, had so good an effect, together with the diligence used by the officers of his majesty's navy, that served on board the squadron then in the channel, that the designs of the *French* were totally defeated, notwithstanding they frequently changed their schemes.

As lord *John Drummond*, lord *Lewis Gordon*, and the rest of the rebel chiefs in *Scotland*, were all this time labouring with great diligence, as well as much violence, to draw together a considerable force, in order to join the Pretender on his return into that country, the king's loyal subjects there shewed the greatest zeal and spirit, in exerting their utmost endeavours to raise troops to oppose them. The city of *Glasgow* particularly distinguished itself, upon this occasion, by levying 15 companies of 60 men each, at their own expence; and having completed them by the beginning of the month of *December*, they marched from thence, under the command of the earl of *Hume*, for *Stirling*.

The city of *Edinburgh* also, having received his majesty's licence for that purpose, raised 1000 men for the king's service; and the earl of *Loudon*, with the forces under his command, marching from *Inverness*, obliged a body of the rebels to raise the blockade of  
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*Fort Augustus*, which they had formed under the command of the son of lord *Lovat*; and, at the same time, the *Macleods* and *Monroes* scoured all the North of the rebel parties, as far as to within 12 miles of *Aberdeen*. Such were the transactions in *South* and in *North Britain* to the close of the year 1745, when the rebels, having been obliged to fly out of *England*, began again to gather strength in the West of *Scotland*, and to resume their design of attacking *Stirling* castle.

The rebels, having passed the river *Eske*, divided into two bodies; the lesser, consisting of about 2000 men, marched, on the 20th of *December*, to *Ecclefechan*, and from thence the next day to *Moffat*. The larger body, of about 4000, proceeded to *Annan*, near the sea-side, and, on the 21st, marched to *Dumfries*; and, having obliged the town of *Dumfries* to pay them 1100*l.* and to give hostages for 900*l.* more, they arrived on the 25th at *Glasgow*.

In the mean time the northern rebels, under lord *John Drummond*, lord *Lewis Gordon*, the master of *Lovat*, and some other of their chiefs, having with them some artillery, ammunition, and money, which had been landed from on board some *Spanish* privateers, arrived at *Perth*, which they fortified for a place of arms, fitting out an armed sloop there, as they did the *Hazard*, which they had lately taken, and another stout privateer at *Montrose*.

The young Pretender entered *Glasgow* at the head of all his forces, and had thereby the inhabitants at his mercy, the regiment they had raised being at *Edinburgh*, and they entirely defenceless. But, how sensible soever they might be of their danger, they did nothing contrary to their duty to deliver themselves; on the contrary they shewed very visible signs of sorrow and sadness; and the Chevalier, though he often appeared in public, was scarce attended so much as by a mob.

## THE REBELLION. 357

It is not at all surprising, that the behaviour of the rebels at *Glasgow*, these provocations considered, should be rather worse than in other places; and so it was. They found themselves in a rich city, abounding in whatever they wanted; and therefore they considered it as a magazine, and began to furnish themselves immediately with broad-cloth, tartan, linen, shoes, and stockings, to the amount of 10,000*l.* sterling; so that, by this means, the Pretender in a manner new-clothed his army, which proved a great means of keeping them together; otherwise, in all probability, the greater part of them would have dispersed.

On the 3d of *January*, having finished their business at *Glasgow*, and gleaned up what they could, they marched to *Kilsyth*; the next day to *Bannockburn*; and on the 5th, having now the best part of their forces together, they summoned the castle and town of *Sterling* to surrender. General *Blakeney* answered, that he would defend the place to the last extremity, and that, as he had lived, he was determined to die, a man of honour. The town, which is indeed of no great strength, after some time spent in treaty, surrendered; and the rebels entered it upon the 8th, when, having again summoned the castle, to as little purpose as before, they took a final resolution of besieging it in form with what artillery they had.

The king's forces, under the command of lieutenant-general *Hawley* and major-general *Huske*, proceeded from *Edinburgh* to the relief of the castle. Part of the forces under major-general *Huske* were sent to dislodge the earl of *Kilmarnock* from *Falkirk*, where he lay with most of the cavalry belonging to the rebel army. On the 13th, the forces, appointed for this service began to move towards *Linlithgow*, which they entered in the evening, at the very instant the earl of *Kilmarnock* was marching in on the side next *Falkirk*, with some of his people; but, having early intelligence

gence of the general's purpose and nearness, he retired, with some precipitation, to the main body of the rebel army before *Stirling*.

On the 16th, general *Huske*, with the forces under his command, took possession of *Falkirk*, and was followed thither, soon after, by general *Hawley*, and the rest of the army, who determined, as next day, to attack the rebels; but being informed, that the rebels were in motion towards him, and endeavoured to gain some rising grounds near the *Moor of Falkirk*, he formed his army, and advanced in good order, the dragoons on the left, and the foot in two lines. As soon as they came within 100 yards of the enemy, the dragoons were ordered to fall on sword in hand, and the two lines of infantry to advance. But, before they could put these orders in execution, the rebels made a very smart fire, which threw the dragoons into some disorder, and they the foot, who made only one irregular fire, *Barrel's* and *Ligonier's* battalions excepted; who being presently rallied by brigadier *Cholmondeley*, were attacked afterwards by the rebels, whom they repulsed, and at length drove them quite out of the field.

In the mean time major general *Huske*, with wonderful prudence and presence of mind, drew together and formed a body of foot in the rear of these two regiments; which the rebels seeing, did not venture to renew the attack. General *Mordaunt*, taking advantage of this delay, rallied and formed the rest of the troops, in which the officers, who in general behaved well, assisted; which prevented their prosecuting their first advantage.

There were several unforeseen, and, indeed, inevitable accidents, that contributed greatly to, or rather might be said to have been the sole occasion of, the rebels gaining this advantage. In the first place, there was some difficulty and confusion in forming the

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## THE REBELLION. 359

king's troops, which was succeeded by another unlucky accident; some of the battalions fired without orders, which occasioned a great confusion among the dragoons. But the greatest misfortune of all was, that, just as the army began to move, there came on a violent storm of wind and rain, which hindered the men from seeing before them; and many of their firelocks were so wet, that it is thought scarce a fifth-part of them were of use; add to this, that they had not the benefit of their artillery; for, the weather having been two days very wet, and there being a very steep hill to climb, they could not get up time enough to do any service in the action; and the commander of the train having quitted it, for which, afterwards, he was, as deservedly as disgracefully, broke, most of the people who belonged to the horses rode away with them; so that when the troops retired to their camp, they found it extremely hard to carry off their cannon to *Linlithgow*, to which the king's army retired, rather to avoid the inclemency of the weather, than in fear of the rebels.

The rebels returned to *Stirling* on the 18th in the afternoon, and again summoned the castle; but general *Blakeney* repeated what he had before told them, that he had been always looked upon as a man of honour, and they should find he would die so. Upon this they began to erect two new batteries, one upon *Gawan-hill*, within 40 yards of the castle, and one upon *Lady's-hill*, upon which they proposed to mount what battering cannon they had, which were but 7 pieces, viz. two 18 pounders, two 16 pounders, and three 12 pounders; and, while this was doing, they continued to fire upon the castle with small arms, which did little or no mischief, though at the same time it exposed their men extremely, and they suffered by the fire of the castle very severely; which put them more and more out of humour with the siege;



and what contributed to encrease their uneasiness was the great want of provisions, which obliged them to send out parties on all sides, to carry off what meal they could find in any part of the country.

The greatest part of their army being returned into the neighbourhood of *Falkirk*, they sent away their prisoners to *Dun-Castle* on the 25th, except the officers: and the *Hazard* sloop, which was now refitted, was ordered to sail to *France* to carry the news of this advantage, which they magnified extremely, as appeared by the accounts that were printed of it at *Paris*.

On the return of the king's army to *Edinburgh*, a very strict enquiry was made into the loss sustained by the late action, which appeared to be, officers excepted, very small.

It happened very luckily, that, as this action proved more fatal to the officers than to the private soldiers, it proved as fortunate to a great many others; for the rebels having sent most of the officers that were taken prisoners at *Preston-Pans* to *Glamis*, *Coupar*, and *Lesly*, when they were drawing together their forces about *Stirling*, the loyal inhabitants of *Dundee*, and other places, formed a design of rescuing them, and conducting them back to *Edinburgh*, which they executed with great spirit and diligence; and they arrived at that city on the 19th, the very next day after the army returned thither from *Linlithgow*.

When the news of this battle reached *London*, it made it necessary to provide for the immediate extinction of so dangerous a flame, by sending down a sufficient number of forces, not only to render the army in *Scotland* more formidable than before, but to encrease its strength to such a degree, as to free the nation from any apprehensions of its consequences, in case the enemy should grow more numerous, or the *French* and *Spaniards* persist in their design of attempting an invasion for their support, in any part of his majesty's

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VOL. I

majesty's dominions. It was with this view, that a resolution was taken of embarking the *Hessian* troops in *British* pay, then in the neighbourhood of *Antwerp*, for *Scotland*; and it was also thought convenient, that to restore the spirit of the soldiers, to extinguish all animosities, and encourage the well-affected in *North Britain*, his royal highness the duke should immediately go down thither.

The troops seemed to be extremely mortified at the miscarriage at *Falkirk*, and shewed an earnest desire to repair it by marching again to attack the rebels; for which the necessary preparations were instantly made; and the army, in a very few days, was in every respect, in a better condition, and better provided, than before. On the 30th in the morning, to the great surprize and joy of the army, his royal highness the duke of *Cumberland* arrived at *Edinburgh*, after a journey amazingly expeditious, considering the rigour of the season. The sight of the duke banished all remembrance of the late untoward accident, and the troops shewed uncommon ardour to be led, bad as the weather was, into the field again.

His royal highness reviewed the forces the very next day, and marched them in pursuit of the rebels. He quartered that night at *Linlithgow* with eight battalions; brigadier *Mordaunt*, with six battalions more, was at *Burrowslouness*; the dragoons lay in the adjacent villages; and colonel *Campbell*, with the *Argylshire* men, took post in the front of the army, towards the *Avon*. There was, at that time, a considerable body of the rebels at *Falkirk*, who immediately retired towards *Torwood*. The next morning his royal highness made the necessary dispositions for prosecuting his march, when he received advice, that the rebels were actually passing the *Forth* with all the diligence imaginable; which news were soon after put out of dispute by the noise they heard of two great re-

ports like the blowing up of magazines; upon which brigadier *Mordaunt* was detached with the *Argyleshire-men*, and the dragoons, to harraß the rebels in their retreat. The brigadier, with the troops under his command, arrived at *Stirling* late that evening, where they found the rebels had abandoned their camp, with all their artillery, and had blown up a great magazine they had of powder and ball in the church of *St. Ninian*; and that with so little care or discretion, that several of the country people were buried in the ruins. They likewise left behind them all the wounded men they had made prisoners in the late action, and about 20 of their own sick men; but it was so late when the king's forces arrived, that it was judged needless to continue the pursuit.

On the 2d of *February*, about one in the afternoon, his royal highness entered *Stirling*, and was pleased to testify his entire satisfaction with respect to the gallant defence made by general *Blakeney*. In the meantime, the rebels were occupied in making all the dispatch in their power, that they might be entirely out of reach before *Stirling* bridge could be repaired for the passage of the army.

Part of them took the road by *Tay-bridge*, towards the hills; the rest, consisting of lord *Lewis Gordon's* men, the remains of the *French*, those commanded by lord *Ogilvie*, and the few horse they had, got into *Perth* the very night that brigadier *Mordaunt* arrived at *Stirling*; and though they had taken a great deal of pains in throwing up several works for the security of that place, yet they began to abandon it, and to continue their march northward the next morning. Lord *John Drummond*, with the remains of the *Scots* and *Irish* that came from *France*, made the best of their way towards *Montrose*, and, on the 3d of *February*, the town of *Perth* was totally evacuated. They left behind them there 13 pieces of iron cannon, 8 and

## THE REBELLION. 363

12 pounders, nailed up; and threw a vast quantity of ammunition into the river, together with 14 swivel guns that had been taken out of the *Hazard* sloop: and set at liberty the sailors that had been confined there from the time that vessel was taken; but they thought fit to carry captain *Hill*, who commanded her, along with them, and some few other prisoners of the better sort.

It is evident, that this retreat of theirs was made with the utmost hurry and precipitation; and yet it was barely made in time: for on the 4th, by six in the morning, the bridge of *Stirling* was repaired, so that the army passed over it; and the advanced-guard, consisting of the *Argyleshire Highlanders*, and the dragoons, marched that night as far as *Crief*; but the foot were cantoned in and about *Dumblain*, where the duke took up his quarters that evening, and the next day the advanced guards took possession of *Perth*. We may, without danger of incurring the suspicion of adulation, observe, that scarce any history can shew a more illustrious instance of the effects of a general's reputation than this before us, since, in the space of a single week, his royal highness quitted the court of the king his father, put himself at the head of the forces in *Scotland*, and saw the enemy flying with precipitation before him.

The rebels were very sensible, how much the news of this retreat of theirs, which had so much the resemblance of a flight, would alarm their friends both at home and abroad; and therefore they dispersed several papers to assign such reasons for it, as they judged might give it a fair appearance; alledging, that their men were so loaded with booty, that they were constrained to let them carry it home; that, after so fatiguing a campaign, some recess was necessary; and that, when they had refreshed and recruited their forces, they would not fail to make a fresh irruption

into the *Lowlands* in the spring. But whatever reasons they might pretend, the true motives of their conduct were these: they judged, that, by drawing the war into the *Highlands*, they should make it extremely burdensome and uneasy to the king's forces, obtain frequent opportunities of harrassing and surprising them, and have a fair chance for rendering them weary of following them through countries, where they thought it impossible for them to have magazines, and other requisites for an army of their force. In the next place, they persuaded themselves, that the removing the war into the *Highlands*, and the report they spread of the severities that would be inflicted by the king's troops, must keep their men together, which they now found a very difficult task; and would also contribute to encrease their strength. They had, besides these, another reason; which was, the giving a fair opportunity to their friends the *French*, of attempting an invasion in the South; which they flattered themselves would afford such a diversion as would free them from all their difficulties. And to all this might be added, that they had formed a project of making themselves masters of the chain or line of fortifications, that ran along the North of *Scotland* from *Fort William* to *Inverness*; and thereby secure the country behind them, and, at the same time, afford means for the *French* and *Spaniards* to send them reinforcement and supplies, of which they had hitherto had large promises, though but slight and ineffectual performances.

His royal highness the duke of *Cumberland*, who penetrated all their views, took the most proper methods that could be contrived for the defeating them. He gave orders for the army to march by different roads (but in such bodies as prevented all danger of surprize) to *Aberdeen*, where he proposed to fix his head-quarters, to raise magazines, and to receive succour

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succours and supplies, as from time to time might be required, by sea, from the South. As the *Hessian* troops were now in *Scotland*, his royal highness took care to dispose of them, and some other bodies of *English* troops, at *Perth*, *Dunkeld*, the castle of *Blair*, castle of *Menzies*, and other places; by which he effectually secured the passage into the *Lowlands*, and put it out of the power of the rebels to return that way into the South. General *Campbell*, with the *Argyleshire* men, undertook the security of *Fort William*, a place at that time of infinite importance, as it secured another passage through the West of *Scotland*, by which the rebels might again have made their way into *England*. These precautions taken, his royal highness set out in person for *Aberdeen*, where he arrived on the 28th of *February*.

The rebels, in prosecution of their designs, made it their first care to become masters of *Inverness*, a town of pretty considerable trade on the east-side of the *Highlands*, with a good port, and a small fortress, sometimes called the castle of *Inverness*, but more properly *Fort George*, to defend it. The earl of *Louden* was then there with a body of about 1500 men, most of them hastily raised for the service of the government; with whom, upon the approach of the rebels to within a very small distance of the place, he marched out, in order to act offensively; but finding that impracticable, and that the enemy were much stronger than he expected, he judged it proper to retreat, which he did on the 20th of *February*, without the loss of a man, leaving two independent companies, under the command of major *Grant*, in *Fort George*, with orders to defend it to the last extremity. But, it seems, these orders were but indifferently obeyed; for the place was soon after surrendered to the rebels; upon which the Chevalier removed his quarters thither, having with him about



4000 men. This success, and the news of surprising some parties of well-affected *Highlanders*, not far from the castle of *Blair*, so much raised their spirits, that they were resolved to prosecute their original design of reducing the *Chain*; and accordingly they next attacked *Fort Augustus*, a very small place, and only important by its situation between *Inverness* and *Fort William*, in which there was a very small garrison, of no more than three companies of *Guise's* regiment, under the command of major *Wentworth*; so that it was speedily reduced, and as speedily demolished, which was the same fate that *Fort George* had met with: a clear demonstration, that they did not think it necessary to have any garrison in that part of the country. But as they were still incommoded by the neighbourhood of the earl of *London*, who lay at their back, with only the *Firth of Murray* between them; the duke of *Perth*, the earl of *Cromartie*, and some of the rest of their chief commanders, resolved to attempt the surprising that earl by the help of boats, which they drew together on their side of the water; and, taking the advantage of a fog, executed their scheme so effectually, that, falling upon the king's forces under the earl's command unexpectedly, they cut off some, made a few officers prisoners, and obliged lord *London* to retire with the rest out of *Sutherland*. But though these small advantages served to make a noise, and to keep up the spirits of their party, yet they did them little real service; and their money beginning to run short, and supplies both at home and abroad failing their expectations, caused great divisions and heart burnings amongst them.

Mean time his royal highness the duke, notwithstanding the rigour of the season, and badness of the roads, took care to distress the rebels as much as was possible; for the very day after he joined the army, he detached the earl of *Ancram* with 100 dragoons, and

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## THE REBELLION. 367

and major *Morris* with 300 foot, to the castle of *Cor-garf*, at the head of the river *Don*, 40 miles from *Aberdeen*, and in the heart of the country then in possession of the rebels, wherein his royal highness had information of their having a considerable magazine of arms and ammunition, which his lordship had orders to seize, or destroy: which commission he executed very effectually; for, the rebels retiring upon his approach, he became master of the place, and all that was in it; but, for want of horses to carry them off, was obliged to destroy most of the arms, and 30 barrels of powder.

On the 16th of *March*, having intelligence that *Ray Stuart*, with about 1000 foot, and 60 hussars, was at *Strathbogie*; his royal highness ordered major-general *Bland* to drive them from thence; and, at the same time, ordered brigadier-general *Mordaunt*, with four battalions, as many pieces of cannon, to march, and support the major-general, if there should be occasion. On the 17th, the major-general advanced to *Strathbogie*, and was almost within sight of the place before the rebels had any notice of his approach; which alarmed them to such a degree, that they quitted their post, and retired with great precipitation towards *Keith*. But this success was attended with some little check: for general *Bland* having detached a captain of *Highlanders*, with 70 of his men, and 30 of *Kingston's* horse, with orders to clear that place, and then rejoin the army, they, contrary to his directions, ventured to quarter there that night; which gave the rebels an opportunity of surprising them, and of cutting in pieces most of the *Campbells*, who were quartered in the church-yard; but the cornet who commanded *Kingston's* horse, retired, with some of those under his command.

The rebels, being very well apprised of the great importance of *Fort William* (the taking of which

would have made them masters of the whole extent of the country from east to west, and from sea to sea, and would, besides, have opened them a passage into *Argyleshire*, and the west of *Scotland*), resolved to leave nothing unattempted, that might contribute to the conquest of this fortress, and therefore ordered brigadier *Stapleton*, with a large body of their best men, most of them engineers, and as good a train as they could furnish, to attempt it: but, the place being defended by captain *Scot*, an officer of courage, fidelity, and experience, they were obliged to raise the siege on the 3d of *April*, about a month after they had begun to move against it; which they did with great precipitation, bending their march to *Inverness*. Upon which, captain *Scot* detached a party of the garrison, who secured eight pieces of cannon, and seven mortars, which the enemy had left behind them.

They had before this received a very great disappointment, as follows:

We have already observed, that they were in great distress for money, and other necessaries, and waited impatiently for a supply from *France*; which they hoped, notwithstanding the miscarriage of so many vessels that had been sent them, would soon arrive on board the *Hazard* sloop; to which they had given the name of the *Prince Charles Snow*, and which they had intelligence was at sea, with a considerable quantity of gold on board, and a good number of experienced officers and engineers, who were very much wanted.

On the 25th of *March*, this long looked-for vessel arrived in *Tongue Bay*, into which she was followed by his majesty's ship the *Sheerness*, commanded by captain *Obrien*, who immediately attacked her. In the engagement the *Hazard* sloop had a great many men killed, and many more wounded; so that, not being able to maintain the fight, she ran ashore on the shallows,

shallows, where the *Sheerness* could not follow her; and there she landed her men and money. The place on which she ran on shore (after being chased 56 leagues) was in the lord *Rea*'s country; and it happened there was then at his lordship's house, his son captain *Mackay*, Sir *Henry Munro*, lord *Charles Gordon*, captain *Macleod*, and about 80 men of lord *Leunden*'s regiment, who had retired thither, when the rebels attacked them by boats, as has been before related.

These gentlemen, having animated the soldiers to attack, notwithstanding the superiority of numbers, those who landed from the *Prince Charles* snow, obtained, after a short dispute, a complete victory, with little or no loss on their side. Besides five chests of money, and a considerable quantity of arms, they took 156 officers, soldiers, and sailors, prisoners, with whom they embarked on board the *Sheerness* man of war, and sailed directly for *Aberdeen*, together with another prize captain *Obrien* had taken in the *Orkneys*. The money, besides one chest that was missing, and what had been taken out of another that was broken, amounted to 12,500 guineas; and amongst the prisoners there were 40 experienced officers, who had been long either in the *French* or *Spanish* service.

At the same time that the rebels employed so considerable a part of their forces in attacking *Fort William*, they sent another body, under the command of lord *George Murray*, to make a like attempt upon the castle of *Blair*, the principal seat of his grace the duke of *Athol*, but a place of no great strength, and in which there was only a small garrison, under the command of Sir *Andrew Agnew*; which siege, or rather blockade, they raised with the same hurry and precipitation, on the approach of the earl of *Crawford*,

as they did that of *Fort William*, upon the very same day, and from the same motives.

His royal highness, having before made the necessary dispositions, marched from *Aberdeen* on the 8th of *April* 1746, in order to find out the rebels; who now had united all their forces, being resolved to make a stand at *Inverness*. He encamped on the 11th at *Cullen*, where my lord *Albemarle* joined him; and the whole army the next day marched to the *Spey*, and passed it with no other loss than of one dragoon, and four women, who were drowned through hurry and indiscretion. Major-general *Huske* was detached in the morning with 15 companies of grenadiers, the royal *Highlanders*, and all the cavalry, and two pieces of cannon; and his royal highness went with them himself.

On their first appearance, the rebels retired from the side of the *Spey* towards *Elgin*; whereupon the duke of *Kingston's* horse immediately forded over, sustained by the grenadiers and the *Highlanders*; but the rebels were all got out of their reach before they could pass. The foot waded over as fast as they arrived; and though the water came up to their middles, they went on with great cheerfulness. The rebels on the other side of the *Spey* appeared to be between 2 and 3000; but they did not make any opposition, either while the king's troops were passing, or when part of them had passed, and were on the other side of the river; for which conduct of theirs it seems very difficult to assign any reason, unless it were, that their officers, being sensible that the artillery of the king's troops would secure their passage, were unwilling to run the risk of dispiriting their men by an unsuccessful attempt of that kind; and therefore chose not to dispute the passage of the *Spey*; hoping rather to deceive their men into an opinion, that they should be

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## THE REBELLION. 371

well enough able to deal with them when they had passed.

The king's army marched on to *Elgin* and *Forreſs*, and from thence to *Nairn*, where they halted on the 15th, and where the rebels thought to have ſurprized them; but the vigilance and ſtrict diſcipline his royal highneſs maintained, abſolutely diſappointed them; notwithstanding which they ſet fire to, and deſtroyed *Fort Auguſtus*, called in all their parties, and prepared for a general engagement, which followed the next day, the 16th, when the rebels were totally defeated, near *Culloden* houſe: upwards of 2000 of them being killed in the battle and purſuit.

The *French* auxiliaries all ſurrendered priſoners of war; amongſt whom were brigadier *Stapleton*, the marquis *De Guilles*, whom the *Highlanders* called the *French* ambaffador, lord *Lewis Drummond*, and about 42 more. The loſs on the ſide of the king's army was very inconfiderable; the only perſons of note killed, were lord *Robert Kerr*, captain in *Barrel's* regiment, captain *Croſſet*, of *Price's*, captain *John Campbell*, of *Loudon's*, and captain *Colin Campbell* of the militia; beſides theſe, 50 private men killed, and 250 wounded.

The number of all the perſons taken in this ſignal victory were 222 *French*, and 226 rebels; all their artillery and ammunition, with other military ſtores, and 12 colours likewiſe, fell into the hands of the victors. The earl of *Kilmarnock* was taken in the action; lord *Balmerino*, at firſt reported to be killed, was taken ſoon after; and four ladies that had been very active in the rebellion, were likewiſe ſeized at *Inverneſs*, viz. lady *Ogilvie*, lady *Kinlock*, lady *Gordon*, and lady *Mackintosh*.

Immediately after the battle, brigadier *Mordaunt* was detached, with the volunteers, to the number of 900, into the *Fraſers* country, in order to reduce all

who should be found in arms there; and with the like view other detachments were made into other disaffected parts of the country; which put it entirely out of the power of the rebels ever to assemble afterwards in any body, capable of disturbing the peace of the country, being reduced to the necessity of separating into small parties, in order to shift the better for themselves.—About the same time that the whole forces of the rebels were thus vanquished at the battle of *Culloden*, the earl of *Cromertie*, his eldest son, a great many officers of distinction, and about 150 private men, were surprised in the north, by a very small party of his majesty's loyal subjects, who sent them prisoners on board his majesty's ship the *Hound*, captain *Dove*, from *Sutherland* to *Inverness*.

Thus the flame of the rebellion, which, after being smothered for some time in *Scotland*, broke out at last with such force, as to spread itself into *England*, and not without reason alarmed the inhabitants even of the metropolis, was in a short space totally extinguished by him who gave the first check to its force; and who perhaps alone was capable of performing this service to his country, to his father, and to his king.

His royal highness, as he well deserved, had the thanks of both houses of Parliament sent him by their respective speakers; to which he returned the most obliging answers. The two houses also addressed his majesty, signifying their readiness to give his royal highness such distinguishing marks of public gratitude as should be most agreeable to his majesty; who was graciously placed to recommend to them the settling of an additional revenue upon his royal son. And accordingly an additional revenue of 25,000*l.* per annum was settled upon him, making 40,000*l.* per annum; his royal highness having before but 15,000*l.* per annum.

While

While these grateful measures were pursuing above, his royal highness the duke took all the necessary precautions for effectually scattering the very embers of the late fire, that they might not be raked together again, or, by the addition of any fresh fuel, blown up into a new flame. With this view he sent detachments of well-affected *Highlanders* and regular troops, into the wildest countries belonging to the clans that had been in arms, where such as submitted were received to mercy, and such as stood out had their countries burnt; and at the same time their cattle were driven away, that they might be the less able to subsist, and those cattle sold for the benefit of the soldiers in the king's army. These measures had very great consequences; the burning lord *Lovat's* and *Cameron of Lochiel's* houses had a great effect, and struck much terror; so that in a very short space of time there were scarce any parties of rebels to be heard of, and most of their chiefs surrendered, were taken, or found means to escape out of the island.

Among the first were the marquis of *Tullibardin*, who stiled himself duke of *Athol*, who died afterwards a prisoner in the *Tower*; Mr. *William Murray*, a near relation of the earl of *Dunmore's*, who was pardoned; the earl of *Kelly*, and the master of *Lovat*. As for lord *Lovat* his father, Mr. *Murray of Broughton*, and many more, they were taken at different times; but the duke of *Perth*, lord *John Drummond* his brother, lord *Elcho* eldest son to the earl of *Wemys*, and several of their associates, made their escapes by sea in two *French* privateers, that were sent to carry off those who had been doing the business of *France* at the expence of their honours and fortunes. Lord *Pisfige*, and lord *Lewis Gordon*, retired the same way; and lord *Ogilvie*, with 13 or 14 more, shipped themselves in a small vessel for *Norway*, where, as soon as they arrived, they were seized by orders from the late king



of Denmark, but were afterwards released, retired into Sweden, and found means to get from thence into France. Lord George Murray also made his escape; but whither, or in what manner, we are not able to say.

As for the young Pretender himself, he found it much more difficult to withdraw than any of his adherents; which was the reason that he remained long behind them; and, as it may be expected that a more particular account should be given of his adventures, we shall endeavour it without any mixture of those romantic tales that have been published on that subject.

He was in the body of reserve at the battle of Culloden, where he is said to have had an horse shot under him; but while the French were treating with the king's troops, in order to be received prisoners of war, he mounted a fresh horse, and made his escape. That very evening, being the 16th of April, he retired to the house of a factor of lord Lovat's, about 10 miles from Inverness; where, meeting with that lord, he staid supper: after supper was over, he set out for Fort Augustus, and pursued his journey the next day to Invergarry, where he proposed to have dined; but finding no victuals, he set a boy to fishing, who caught two salmon, on which he made an hearty meal, and continued waiting there for some of his troops, who had promised to rendezvous at that place; but, being disappointed, he resolved to proceed to Locharcige: he arrived there on the 18th at two in the morning, where he went to sleep, which he had not done for five days and nights; he remained there till five o'clock in the afternoon in hopes of obtaining some intelligence; but, gaining none, he set out from thence on foot, and travelled to the Glen of Morar, where he arrived the 19th at four in the morning.

He set out about noon the same day for Arrasbaig, where he arrived about four in the afternoon. He remained

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remained there about seven days, waiting for captain *O'Neil*, who joined him on the 27th, and informed him, that there were no hopes of drawing his troops together again in a body; upon which he resolved to go to *Stornway*, in order to hire a ship to go to *France*: the person employed for this purpose was one *Donald M<sup>r</sup> Leod*, who had an interest there. On the 28th he went on board an eight-oared boat, in company with *Sullivan* and *O'Neil*, ordering the people who belonged to the boat to make the best haste they could to *Stornway*.

The night proving very tempestuous, they all begged of him to go back; which he would not do, but, to keep up the spirits of the people, he sung them an *Highland* song: but, the weather growing worse, on the 29th about seven in the morning, they were driven on shore on a point of land called *Rushness*, in the island of *Benbecula*, where, when they got on shore, the Pretender helped to make a fire to warm the crew, who were almost starved to death with cold. On the 30th, at six in the evening, they set sail again for *Stornway*; but, meeting with another storm, were obliged to put into the island of *Scalp* in the *Hurries*, where they all went on shore to a farmer's house, passing for merchants that were shipwrecked in their voyage to the *Orkneys*; the Pretender and *Sullivan* going by the names of *Sinclair*, the latter passing for the father, and the former for the son. They thought proper to send from thence to *Donald M<sup>r</sup> Leod* at *Stornway*, with instructions to freight a ship for the *Orkneys*. On the third of *May* they received a message from him, that a ship was ready.

On the 4th they set out on foot for that place, where they arrived on the 5th about noon; and, meeting with *Donald M<sup>r</sup> Leod*, they found that he had got into company, where, growing drunk, he had told a friend of his for whom he had hired the ship:  
upon

upon which there were 200 people in arms at *Stornoway*, upon a report that the Pretender was landed with 500 men, and was coming to burn the town: so that they were obliged to lie all night upon the moor, with no other refreshment than biscuit and brandy. On the 6th they resolved to go in the eight-oared boat to the *Orkneys*; but the crew refused to venture, so that they were obliged to steer south along the coast-side, where they met with two *English* ships, and this compelled them to put into a desert island; where they remained till the 10th, without any provision but some salt fish they found upon the island.

About ten in the morning on that day they embarked for the *Harries*, and at break of day on the 11th they were chased by an *English* ship, but made their escape among the rocks; about four in the afternoon they arrived at the island of *Benbecula*, where they staid till the 14th, and then set out for the mountain of *Currada* in *South Uist*, where they staid till the militia of the *Isle of Skie* came to the island of *Irasky*; and then sailed for the island of *Uia*, where they remained three nights, till, having intelligence that the militia were coming towards *Benbecula*, they immediately got into their boat, and sailed for *Lochbusdale*; but being met by some ships of war, they were obliged to return to *Lochagnart*, where they remained all day, and at night sailed for *Lochbusdale*, where they arrived, and staid eight days on a rock, making a tent of the sail of the boat. They found themselves there in a most dreadful situation; for, having intelligence that captain *Scott* had landed at *Kilbride*, the company was obliged to separate, and the Pretender and *O'Neil* went to the mountains, where they remained all night, and soon after were informed, that general *Campbell* was at *Bernary*; so that now they had forces very near on both sides of them, and were absolutely at a loss which way to move.

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In their road they met with a young lady, one miss *M'Donald*, to whom captain *O'Neil* proposed assisting the Pretender to make his escape, which at first she refused; but, upon his offering to put on woman's cloaths, she consented, and desired them to go to the mountain of *Currada* till she sent for them, where they accordingly staid two days; but hearing nothing from the young lady, the Pretender concluded she would not keep her word, and therefore resolved to send captain *O'Neil* to general *Campbell*, to let him know he was willing to surrender to him: but about five in the evening a message came from the young lady, desiring them to meet her at *Rushness*: being afraid to pass by the ford because of the militia, they luckily found a boat, which carried them to the other side of *Uia*, where they remained part of the day, afraid of being seen by the country-people. In the evening they set out for *Rushness*, and arrived there at twelve at night; but not finding the young lady, and being alarmed by a boat full of militia, they were obliged to retire two miles back, where the Pretender remained on a moor till *O'Neil* went to the young lady, and prevailed upon her to come to the place appointed at nightfall of the next day.

About an hour after, they had an account of general *Campbell's* arrival at *Benbecula*; which obliged them to remove to another part of the island, where, as the day broke, they discovered four sail close on the shore, making directly up to the place where they were, so that there was nothing left for them to do but to throw themselves among the heath. When the wherries were gone, they resolved to go to *Clanronald's* house; but when they were within a mile of it, they heard general *Campbell* was there, which forced them to retreat again; and soon after *O'Neil* was taken.

There

There were no distinct accounts of what became of the Pretender after this, for the remainder of that month, and the greatest part of the next, except that he shifted about from place to place in woman's cloaths, and on the 28th of *June* went with the lady whom he attended in a little boat from *South Uist* to the *Isle of Skie*; there he resumed his own dress, and was carried by one *Mackinnon* in a boat to *Raga*, from whence he returned in a boat to *Skie*, and, after some stay there, went back to the Continent. About the middle of *July* the government had certain intelligence of his crossing the hill of *Morar* in *Lochaber*, proceeding from thence to *Badenoch*; and on the 23d of *July* he was at *Arisaig*, and continued wandering about that country, in great distress, during all the month of *August*.

On the 6th of *September*, two *French* privateers came upon the coast of *Moidart*, where the Pretender first landed, and made strict enquiry after him. Several of the *Camerons*, and some of the *Macdonalds*, repaired to them, and were employed to search for the Pretender; but it was the 17th before he came down to them, and was then dressed in a short coat of black freize, with a plaid over it. He was in a bad state of health, and seemed to be brought very low by the fatigues he had gone through. He embarked the next day about noon, attended by the following persons: *Mapherson* of *Clunie*, with others of his clan, *Cameron* of *Lochiel*, *Dr. Cameron* his brother, *Lodowick Cameron* of *Tor-castle*, *Allan Cameron*, and *Macdonald* of *Lochgarry*, with many others whose names were not known. *Macdonald* of *Barisdale*, and his son, went on board the ships before his arrival.

The ships on which they embarked were the *Happy* privateer of 30 guns and 300 men, and the *Prince of Conti* of 20 guns and 240 men, fitted out from *St. Malo's* by some of his own adherents. The were obliged

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obliged to sail round the *Land's-End*, where they were chased by two *English* men of war; but escaped by the thickness of the weather, and on the 29th arrived in a creek three leagues to the west of *Morlaix*, where he presently went ashore.

He was so extremely fatigued, and in so bad a state of health, that he rested a week before he went to *Fontainebleau*, where the *French* court then was, and where (if their *gazettes* deserve any credit) he met with a very kind reception, had a great sum of money given him, a large pension settled upon him, and mighty promises made him; but all this was only to serve the present turn, and to express the resentment of the *French* court for our attempt upon *Port L' Orient*. For, the situation of things changing, the disposition of the *French* court changed likewise; his pension was forgotten, the complaints he made little regarded, and at last he was plainly given to understand, that the best thing himself and his brother could do, was to retire to *Avignon*; which they accordingly did.

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# I N D E X

TO THE

## FOURTH VOLUME.

A.			
<b>A</b> BER, <i>Lake of</i>	225	Armsdale, <i>river</i>	8
Aberbrothock	173	Arran, <i>isle of</i>	254
Abercorn, <i>Lord</i>	95	Arrick-stone	4. 9
Aberdeen	176	Arthur's <i>seat</i>	85, 95
Aberdour,	142	Athol, <i>duke</i>	227
Aberlady	62	Au, <i>loch</i>	3
Abernethy	183	Avona	262
Acts of <i>Parliament</i>	35	Aymouth	45
Æstuarium Vararis,	7	B.	
Ailfa <i>island</i>	260	Badenoch	226
Air	112	Balfour, <i>Sir Andrew</i>	79
Air, <i>river</i>	8, 111	Balgony	142, 158
Allan, <i>river</i>	165	Balmerinock <i>monastery</i>	158
Alloway	162	Balvaird <i>in Fife</i>	141
Alferig	216	Banff	185
Alfving <i>isle</i>	291	Banco <i>murdered</i>	226
St. Andrews	150	Bannockburn	126
Angus, <i>earl of</i>	58	Barnacles	314
Annan, <i>river</i>	9	Barra, <i>island</i>	292
Annan	102	Bass	3, 58
Annandale	ibid.	Battle, <i>a surprising</i>	53. Near
Annat <i>sands</i>	172	Preston-Pans	62 and 338.
Aquinas, <i>Thomas</i>	47	Of Musselburgh,	65.
Ardmeanach	224	Of Pinkey, <i>ibid.</i>	At
Ardock	160	Falkirk	358. At Ban-
Arduthie	175	nockburn	126. Cullo-
		den	371
		Bean	

# I N D E X.

Bean castle,	196	C.	
Beaulieu, an abbey	224	Caithness	215
Bellhaven, lord, his seat	60	Calder castle	191
Benbecula	293	Caledonia	139
Bernera	256, 300	Calendar-house	122
Berwick	45	Cambuskenneth abbey	129
Blackness castle	101	Candida Casa	109
Blainoch, river	8	Canney island	284
Blair castle	227	Carlavrock, castle	104
Boetius, Hector	171	Carrick	110
Bog of Gicht	186	Carron manufactory	122
Bogie, river	183	Carron, river	125, 129
Bon accord, or New Aber-		Carse	171
deen,	176	Cary island	262
Bonifon, the fall of	134	Castle William	226
Boo-sha-la, island	277	Cattle in Scotland	22
Borera	295, 301	Cava	311
Borwe	215	Cheny, lady	61
Brae of Murray	194	Clackmannan	160
Braidalbin	228, 230	Clackmannanshire	162
Braidalbin, earl of	236	Clak greefe	314
Braidwood, Mr. the teacher		Clan Macduff's cross	144
of deaf and dumb children		Clerkington	60
	96	Clyde, Firth of	4, 107
Brafa	327	Clyde, the falls of	133
Brechin	174	Clydsdale, shire of	132
Brechin in Angus	229	Cockburn family	60
Brochty craig	172	Cockenny	61
Brora, isle of	214	Coldingham	46
Broxmouth	52	Coldstream	48
Bruntisland	147	Coll, island	280
Buchan	188, 190	Collistown	184
Buchanan	78	St. Colm's Inch	329
Buchanness	188	Colonia island	271
Buckhaven	149	Comely Garden	85
Burleigh	140	Convention of burghs	50
Burra	310	Connell, river	8
Burray	327	Coppinsha	313
Burrowstonness	102	Coronation chair	164
Bute	252	Cory-Lin	133
Byng, Sir George	173	Coulterneb, a sea fowl	291
		Cowpar	

Cowp  
 Craig  
 Cram  
 Craw  
 Crom  
 Crom  
 Culle  
 Culloo  
 Culro  
 Cumb  
 Cunni  
 Custon  
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 Druid  
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# I N D E X.

Cowpar	142, 158	Dundee	170, & seq.
Craigie Hall	99	Dunfermling	141
Cramond	99, 100	Dunglby head	189
Crawford Lindsey	122	Dunbil battle	53
Cromertie	215	Dunipace, two hills	129
Cromwell, Oliver	53	Dunkeld	165
Cullen	186	Dunnoter castle	175
Culloden-Moor	191	Dunrobin castle	217
Culrofs	163	Dun-vegan	290
Cumbra islands	262	Dupplin castle	229
Cunningham	113	Duns, town and castle	47
Customs, manners, &c.	23	Duns Scotus, John	ibid.
D.		Dysert	148
Dalkeith	138	E.	
Dalrymple family	60	East Lothian-shire	49
Damsey	313	Ebba	47
Deanburn bridge	48	St. Ebbe's head	ibid.
Dee, river	6, 107, 176	Eccles	49
Deer-foand	312	Echo, a remarkable one	116
Derby-haven.	249	Edelfred, king	46
Deveron, river	183	Eden, river	158
Ding-down-Tantallon	58	Edinburgh	65 & seq.
Dingwall	8	Egg, island	287
Dirleton-house	60	Eglinton castle	113
Doctor Subtilis	47	Eglissha	313
Don, river	6, 176	Elgin	191, 193, 194
Donebrissel	142	Ely, a little town	149
Dornoch town	213	Eousmil	294
Doverne, river	6	Ern, river	218
Douglas	5, 132, 249	Errick-stone	132
Douglas, river	132	Errol, earl of, his seat	168
Douglasdale	ibid.	Erfilton	49
Druidess	302	Escurial of Scotland	93
Drumlanrig	105	Est, river	102
Duart bay	272	F.	
Dumblain	161	Fair-isse	323
Dumfries	103, & seq.	Fairland-point	108
Dun, river	111	Falkirk	122
Dunbar	50	Falkland	142
Dunbarton	233	Fara	311
Dunbriton Firth	123	Faro-head	221
		Farrar	

# I N D E X.

Farrar, river	224	Glengary	225
Fast castle	47	Glenluce bay	108
Fife, near Aberdour	54	God-speed-all, a village	63
Fiseneſs	150	Goodtrees	68
Fifeſhire	139, 188	Government of Scotland	32
Findorn	7	Gowrock	115
Findorn river	191	Graham's Hall	31
Finlater, earl of	186	Grain and Puife of Scotland	
Fir-trees, 6000 acres	53		15
Fiſher-row	62	Grampion Hills	228
Fiſheries in Scotland,	9,	Granſey	311
	330	Grave, iſland	298
Flada, a ſmall iſland	257	Great Rule-iſle	326
Fladda, iſle	291	Greenlow	47
Fleurs	136	Greenoch	114
Flotta	311	H.	
Forbes, Duncan, Eſq.	73	Haddington	56
Fochabers,	186	Haddington, earl of	53
Fordun	176	Haddo's Hole	72
Forfar	174	Hamilton	121
Forſichen	131	Harlow battle	184
Forreſs, burgh of	192	Harries	295
Fort Auguſtus	208	Hawthornden	97, 138
Fort William	205	Hebrides, iſlands	246 to 307
Forth, Firth of	3, 101	Hermatia, iſle	301
Forth, river	4, 40	Highland bouſes	167
Foula	326	Highlanders	25
Fraſer's family	134	Highlands	237
Fraſersburgh	185, 188	Hirta, iſle	301
Frucklan, iſland	264	Holyrood-houſe	65, 93
G.		Holy-wood	105
Galloway	107	Hopton-houſe	101
Garmach or Garmouth	7	Horn, cut out of an head	78
Genen-hill	134	Hounam	136
Gibſon, Walter	121	Hume	49
Gigaia iſle	262	Huntley caſtle	183
Gillicranky	168	I.	
Glaſgow	117, &c.	Jed, river	136
Glames	161	Jedburgh	ibid.
Glenco	225	Jla, iſland	267
Glenelg	224	Incharvy	329
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Kirk  
Kilm  
Knap  
Kyle  
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V

# I N D E X.

225	Inchkeith	323	L.	
108	Inchmurin	232	Lady, <i>isle</i>	113
63	Inchnolaig	<i>ibid.</i>	Lakes in Scotland	3
68	Inchennaugan	<i>ibid.</i>	Laneik	132
32	Inglestown	100	Largis	113
115	Innerbervy	175	Lauder	59, 137
312	innerkeithin	139	Lees	48
and	Inverary	184, 234	Leith	98
15	Inverury	184	Lemon hills	4
228	Inveresk	63	Lenoxshire	233
311	Inverness	196, & <i>seq.</i>	Lethington	53
98	Jona, <i>island</i>	277	Lesly	53, 98, 142, 146
326	Johnson, Dr. Samuel	95	Leven	145
47	Irvin, <i>river</i>	8	Lewes, <i>island</i>	295
114	Irvin, <i>town</i>	112	Libertoun	68
56	Island of Pigmies	298	Lingay	295
53	Islands in Scotland	2	Linlithgow	129
72	Jura, <i>island</i>	262	Lismore, <i>island</i>	260
121	K.		Little, Clement	78
84	Kairn, <i>river</i>	9	Lochaber	4, 205, 225
95	Kelfo	136	Lochanwyn, <i>lake</i>	4
38	Kerniberg, <i>island</i>	280	Locharn	228
107	Kerston	312	Lochaw	236
101	St. Kilda	301	Lochfyn	<i>ibid.</i>
67	Kilmaers	113	Lochgenen, <i>lake</i>	134
25	Kilmarnock	<i>ibid.</i>	Lochlevin	145
37	Kilsyth	122	Lochlomond	3, 232
01	Kincardin	175	Lochmaben	103
93	Kinghorn	148	Lochmoy	194
05	Kinlofs, <i>noble abbey</i>	185	Lochness	3
01	Kinrofs	142, 145	Lochrian	108
78	Kintore	183	Lochspey	6
36	Kintyre	235	Lochstin	214
49	Kips	131	Lochtyrn	3
83	Kirkaldy	148	Lorn	235
36	Kircudbright	107	Lossy, <i>river</i>	7, 193
<i>id.</i>	Kirkwall	312	Lothian	65
67	Kismul, <i>isle</i>	292	Louden <i>castle</i>	113
29	Knapdale	235	Lowlands	125
h-	Kyle	111	Lowlanders	25
	Kylus, a British King	<i>ibid.</i>	Lyer, a <i>fovel</i>	309
	Vol. IV.		S	Lyne

# I N D E X.

Lyne	135	Nid, or Nith river	9, 109
M.		St. Ninian	<i>ibid.</i>
Macdonald	293	Northern isles	307, & <i>seq.</i>
Mahon's well	19	North-Berwick	62
Maiden castle	92	North-Para	313
Mainland, island	324	North-Hope	309
Maitland, family	137	North-Lough	66
Man, isle of	246	North-Uist	294
Manufactures	13	O.	
Marchmont	47	Ochil-hills	230
Mauls Mitre	132	Old Combús	49
May-hole	110	Oranfa, isle	270
May, island	150, 327	Orcades	314
Medicinal waters, &c.	18	Orchil-hills	163
Melrofs abbey	136	Order of the thistle, or St.	
Melvil	142, 158	Andrew	30
Mercians, the Pagan	46	Orkney, prince of	316
Merlin	135	Orkney, isles	307, & <i>seq.</i>
Mernoch, island	257	Ormistoun	60
Merns, the	175	P.	
Merse, county	47	Pabbay	300
Mid-Lothian	137	Paisley	115
Moffat	103	Paldykirk	175
Moffat, avells	18	Paladius	<i>ibid.</i>
Monchroky hills	7	Papa Stronfa	313
Montpelier of Scotland,	63	Papa Westra	314
Montrose	172, 230	Paps of Jura	262
Montrose spa	19	Peebles	134
Mordington	45	Peele	250
Mountains	16	Pentland	222, 308
Much, island	287	Pentland Firth	189
Mull, island	272	Perth	159
Murray	190	Peterhead spring	19
Murray Firth	7, 189	Peterhead,	183, 184
Musselburgh	62	Pillar of stone	296
N.		Pinkey	63
Nairn	7, 191	Pittenweem	150
Nesse, river	8	Port-Patrick	108
Nether-bow Port at Edin-		Porteous, captain	87
burgh	70, 76	Port-Seton	62
New-biggings	63	Portlory	188
		Precious	

# I N D E X.

Precious stones, &c.	22	Shetland, islands	323
Preston	62	Sibbald, Sir Robert,	79
Pringle, Sir John	48	Skie, island	225, 286
Puddock	114	Soa, island	303
Q.		Solan geese	58
Queen's-ferry	100, 139	Solway Firth	107, 110
R.		Sota-Britil	291
Raarfay, isle	291	Soulisfer, a rock	299
Ramsea	250	South-Esk, river	6
Ramfway	249	South-Fara	314
Randal's trench	135	South-Ronalfay	309
Rebellion, a particular ac-		South-Uist	293
count of	335 & seq.	Soutra-hill	137
Regent of Humanity	77	Spey, river	6, 186
Religion, &c.	27	Spinie, loch	4
Renfrew	114	Staffa, island	273
Rinnes of Galloway	109	Stennis, lake	312
Rivel	103	Stirling	65, 127
Rivers	3 & seq.	Stone, the Dwarfy	310
Rocking stone	141	Stonehive	175
Rona, isle	291, 298	Stranrawer	108
Rora-head, a promontory	309	Strathnaven	186
Roslin	97	Strathbogy	182
Rothas, earl of	146	Strathdevon	6
Round table, a rock	292	Stratherin	194
Roufa, isle	313	Strathmore	161
Roxburgh	52, 136	Strathnairn	194
Ruglen, a burgh	122	Stratnavern	214
Rum, island	284	Strathy, river	8
S.		Strath-yla	185
Salmon fishery	181	Stroma, isle	308
Sanda	313	Stronfa	313
Scalloway	326	Sutherland	213
Scalpa, island	291	Swinna, island	309
Scar, river	9	T.	
Scoon, the palace of	165	Tantallon castle	57
Scotists	47	Taransay	301
Second fight, explained	242	Tarnaway, castle	191
Sellay	300	Tay	3, 5, 158, 169
Seton	60	Tayne	222
Shapinsha	313	Tenningham	53
		Theatre	



# I N D E X.

Theatre at Edinburgh	82	Wallace	133
Thistle, the order of	30	Walley	326
Thomists, a set of scholastics		Warders Dikes	104
	47	Ways and Hoy isle	309
Thrusshel stone	296	Wemys, lord, his house	148
Thurso, town and river	216	West, water lake	134
Tinto bill	4	Wester Wemys	148
Tiviotdale	136	Western Isles	246 to 307
Tong	215	Westra	314
Tor-Wood	123	Whithern	109
Traquair, earl of	135	Wigton, the shire of	107
Tronda	326	Wilford, Sir George	56
Tullibardin	228	Wilson, Alexander, Esq.	90
Tweed	9, 45	Winged, castle	92
Tweeddale	134	Winton, earl of	60
Tyne, river	56	Y.	
Tyre-ty, island	280	Yarmouth in Norfolk	52
V.		Yell	326
Vatersa, isle	292	Yester-house	53
Vaist	326	Z.	
W.		Zeal, or Yell	326
Wade, gen. his roads	208	Zester-house	53



# F I N I S.

3  
6  
4  
9  
8  
4  
8  
7  
4  
09  
07  
56  
90  
92  
60

52  
26  
53  
26  
53